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Ann Arbor Observer

November 2009

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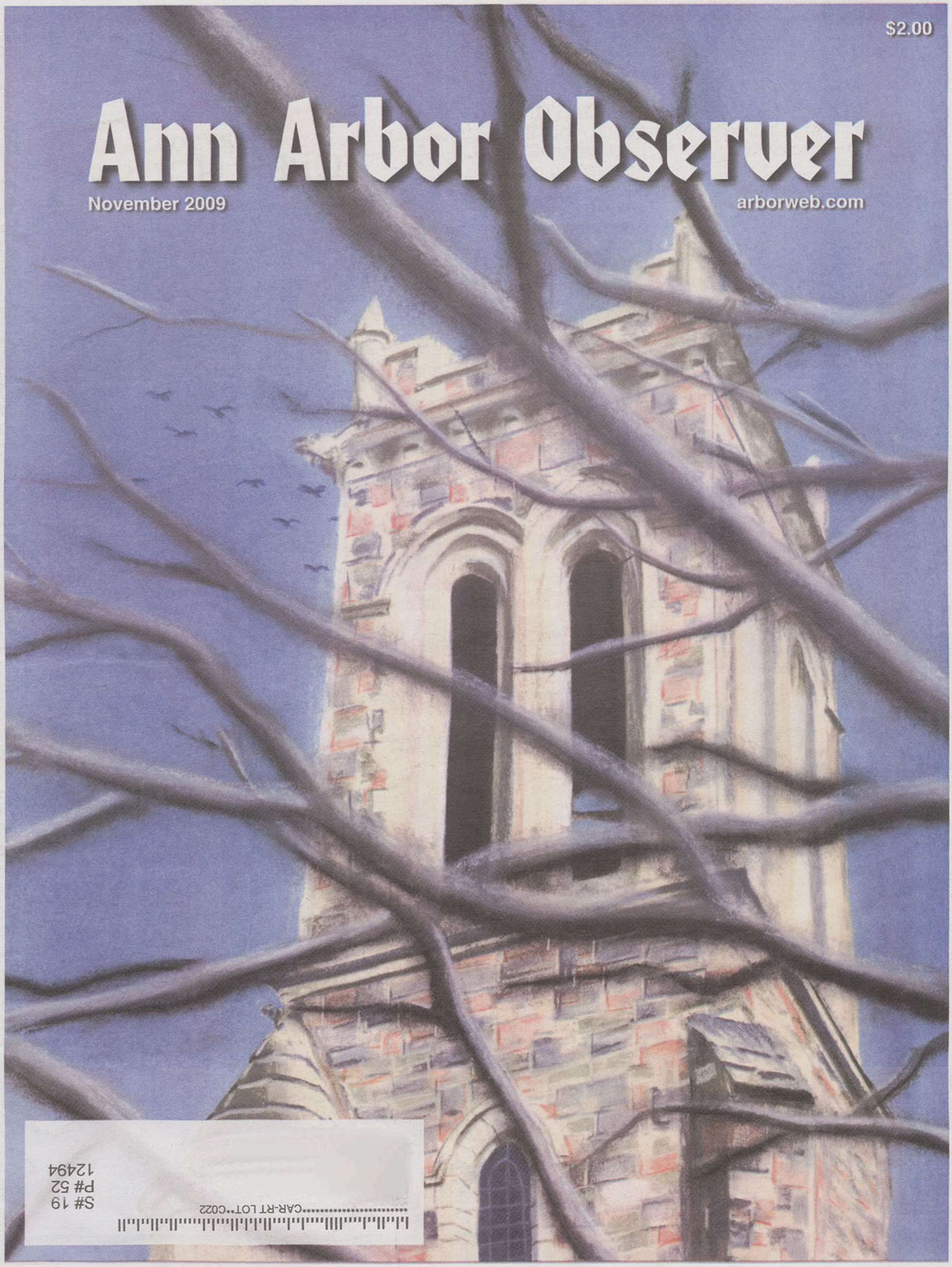

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November Happenings

Good to Eat

COOKING CLASSES
At Hollander's

1
1pm to 2pm
Mushrooms Never Tasted this Good with Greg Upshur.

4
Noon to 1pm
Chinese Dumplings with Yuyang Ye.

8
1pm to 2pm
Gingerbread Houses with Karen O'Neal.

11
Noon to 1pm
Thanksgiving Side Dishes with Marge Biancke.

15
1pm to 2pm
Pumpkin Cake – Torta de Auyama with Elizabeth Marcano Kennedy.

22
1pm to 2pm
Herb Blends for Holiday Dishes with Nanci Jenkins.

Class Fee: $13 (includes reserved seating, recipes, and taste samples)

FREE TASTINGS
At Ann Arbor Spice Merchants

7
Mulled Warm Spiced Cider

14
All things Pumpkin... soups to puddings

21
Savory Spiced Pecans

28
Sugar cookies dusted with our wonderful raspberry, lemon or vanilla bean sugar.

Check out Monahan's Seafood for the freshest selection around

Fun Stuff

Play the Chimes
12pm to 12:30pm
Wed & Fri
10:30am to 11am
Saturdays
Choose from over 100 songs and follow the numbers to play. All ages welcome.

15
Wild Swan Theater
Nov 15, 11am
Wild Swan theater brings stories to life at Elephant Ears under the tree. Free!!!!

Cuts for a Cause at Encore Studio
Sunday, Nov. 15
12pm to 4pm
Stylists and nail technicians donate their time and proceeds including tips to Children with Hair-loss, a non-profit organization, and will offer $15 haircuts and $10 manicures. First come, first served basis. For information 734-663-9344.

KERRYTOWN OPEN HOUSE!
Sunday, November 15th
11am to 4pm
Live Music • Art Demonstrations
Crafts for the Kids
Face Painting • Pre-Holiday Sales
Storytelling with Mother Goose
Food Sampling

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HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
at Found, Saturday, Nov 7
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Holiday Open House at FOUND. Creative decor and gifts galore! Refreshments. Gift with purchase.

MAKE HOLIDAY CARDS
At Found, Sunday, Nov 22
Great ideas for handmade cards! Stop by the table at FOUND on Sunday, between 1:00 –3:00 to make your own holiday cards. Small materials fee.

NOV. PAPER ARTS WORKSHOPS
At Hollander's

Nov 2 & 9– *Hot Stamping with Metallic Foils with Tom Veling.*
Nov 3 & 4– *Collage Techniques with Karen Izenberg.*
Nov 6 & 7- *Home Book Repair with John MacKrell.*
Nov 7– *Continuing Paper Making with Karen O'Neal.*
Nov 8– *Basic Bookbinding with Tom and Cindy Hollander.*
Nov 13 to 15– *Coptic Sewn Book on Boards with Daniel Essig.*
Nov 15 to 19– *Italic Calligraphy with Diane Stum Fekete.*
Nov 21– *Introduction to Letterpress Printing with Phil Driscoll.*
Nov 22– *Advanced Letterpress Printing with Phil Driscoll.*
Nov 29– *Leather Wrap Non-Adhesive Journal with Barbara Brown.*

THANKSGIVING WEEK
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V2V's Big Thanksgiving Week Sale
Follow tradition with V2V and their long-awaited Thanksgiving Week Sale featuring growing discounts throughout the entire week on women's apparel and gifts for all! For more information visit www.shopv2v.blogspot.com or call 665-9110.

Sparrow Meats & Produce
has everything you need for a tremendous Thanksgiving dinner. Sparrow Markets will be open Thanksgiving Day from 8am until Noon for those last minute items!

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING!
November 29th Tree Lighting Ceremony 5:30pm
Come to the Kerrytown Courtyard where Santa comes to light a big Christmas Tree in preparation for the Christmas Season. Join in Caroling, enjoy candle luminaries and visit with Santa.

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Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena: Expected to open mid-December! General skate Tuesday through Sunday. Visit www.a2gov.org/buhr for new drop-in hockey times and the schedule for holiday and themed ice skating events during winter break. Ice time available on Sundays and weekday afternoons. 2751 Packard, call 734.794.6234.

Veterans Memorial Indoor Ice Arena: Register for skating/hockey lessons - all skill levels welcome. Session II starts Nov. 12 through Jan. 23. Adult & General skating schedules at www.a2gov.org/vets. Call about renting the ice for special events. 2150 Jackson, call 734.794.6235.

Mack Indoor Pool: Open to the public for lap swim, tot splash and public swimming every day. New Master's swimming session starts Nov. 9. Ask about season passes and synchronized swimming classes. 715 Brooks Street, call 734.794.6237 or visit www.a2gov.org/mack.

Ann Arbor Farmers Market: Open 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesdays through December and year-round on Saturdays. 315 Detroit Street, call 734.794.6255. See what's in season at www.a2gov.org/market.

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Laura Bein • Mary Beth Lewis
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Profiles Editor
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John Hinchey

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Courtney Conover • Greg Dooley • Kevin Duke
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Photographers
Mark Bialek • Sally Bjork • Jeff Lamb

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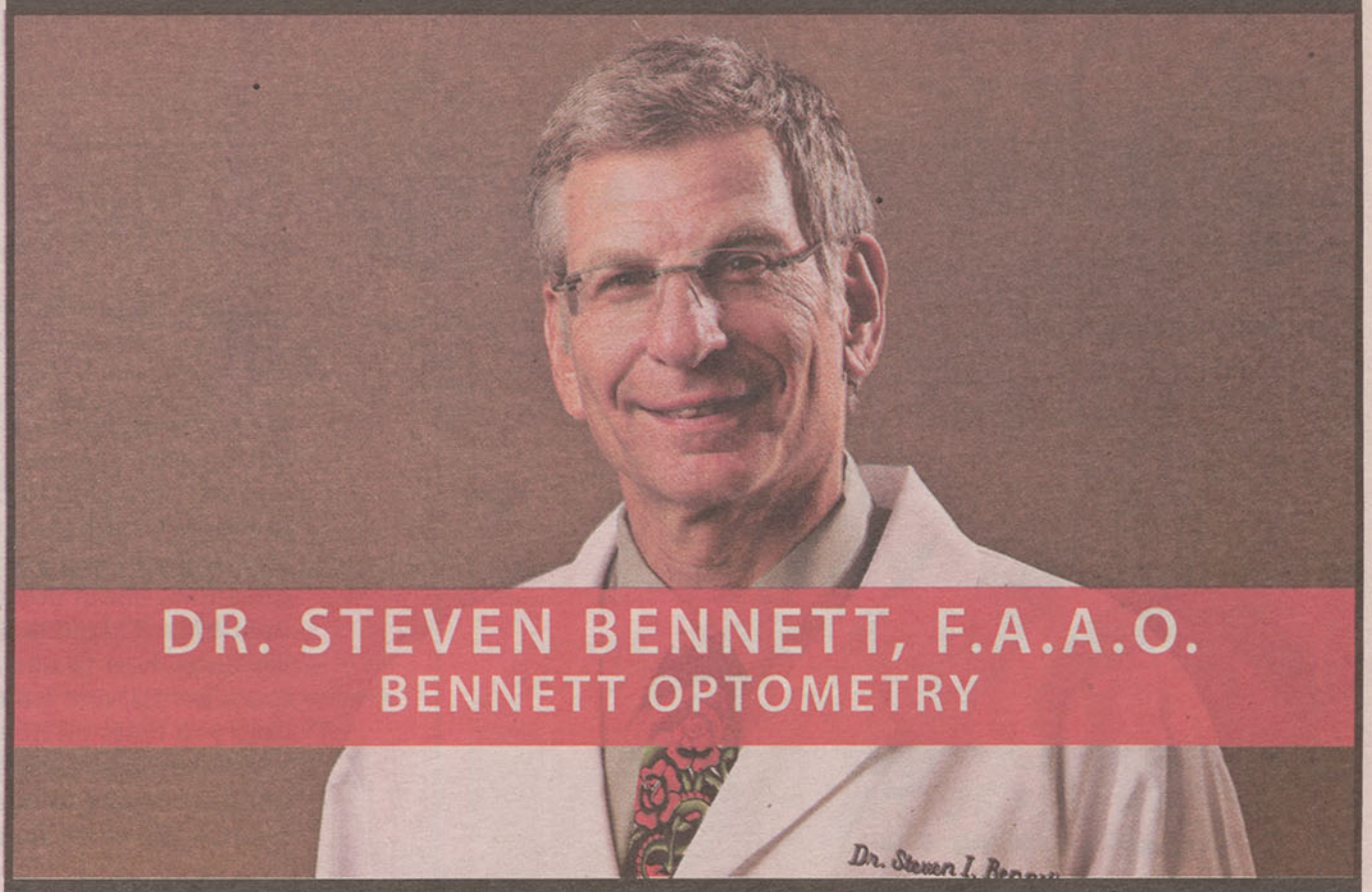

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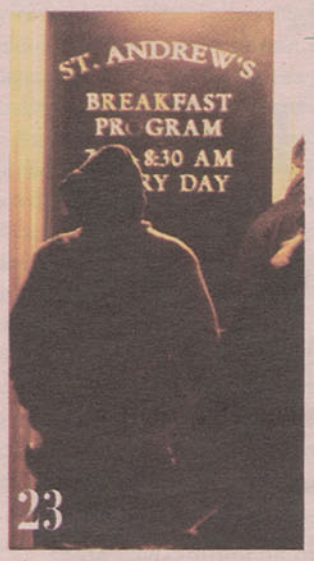
Cover: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Pastel painting by Matt Peterson.



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Exceptional Achievement

Photo courtesy Skype/Graham Flack

Josh Silverman
Community High School Class of 1987

From winning the Ann Arbor Science Fair in the 7th grade to enjoying regional and national recognition as, admittedly, the least talented member of Mike Grace's 1:45 Jazz Ensemble during his junior and senior years, Josh Silverman is an Ann Arbor Public Schools success story. His academic achievements here, at Brown University and Stanford Graduate School of Business helped nurture his entrepreneurial spirit, leading to an impressive career building several startups into world-class brands and companies.

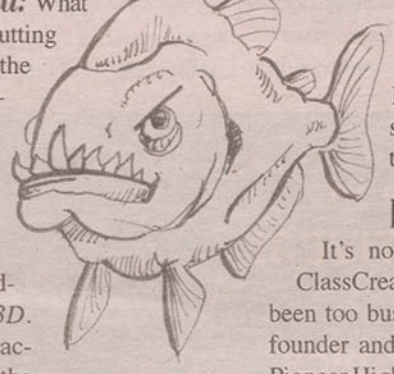
Today Josh is president of Skype, the world's leading online calling service with more than 480 million registered users worldwide. He lives in London with his wife and children, and still enjoys telling his story about attending "Commie High" to anyone who will listen.

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS www.a2schools.org

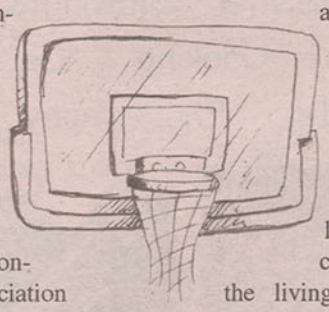
Robocalls: According to a series of anonymous phone calls blanketing the city in October, "Soon, you won't even know if they're trying to raise your millage." That would come as a surprise to Ann Arborites engaged in a hot debate about the proposed schools "enchancement" tax (see Inside Ann Arbor, p. 11). Even more surprising: the fear-mongering calls targeted a seemingly innocuous pair of measures on the Nov. 3 ballot that would let the city publish proposed ordinances on its website instead of buying ad space in newspapers.

According to the Ann Arbor Chronicle, the Michigan Newspaper Association is behind the calls—their members stand to lose business if the proposals pass. But even newspapers don't shed much light at the moment. Under current law, a paper must be in business at least a year and publish at least weekly to run such "legal notices." Since the Ann Arbor News closed, the only publication that qualifies is the Washtenaw County Legal News—whose circulation is less than 1,200 copies.

Mongo *Piranha*: What are people doing cutting up piranha over the Mongolian Barbeque on Main Street? Taking advantage of Michigan's 42 percent film tax credit—in this case, by editing *Piranha 3D*. The forthcoming action thriller from the Weinstein Company was shot in Arizona, then sent to Michigan for editing.

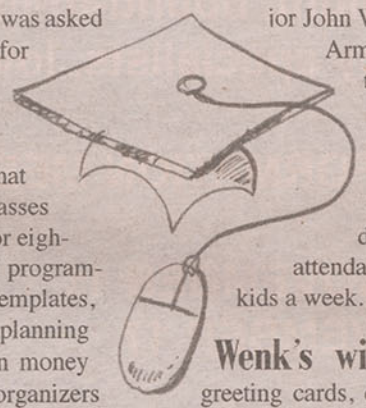


Lulu Zezza, who runs the eight-person operation, explains that film editors are essentially nomads who can work anywhere. The *Piranha* editors are using equipment rented from Grace & Wild Studios in Farmington Hills. But they decided that rather than live in motels near the studio, they'd move Grace & Wild's editing machines into rented space in Ann Arbor and put the editors up in apartments. "The editors like living in a college town," Zezza explains. "They like being able to walk or bike to work. And," she adds with a smile, "they like the restaurants on Main Street."



Basketball revival: When Michigan beat then-undefeated Duke last December at Crisler Arena, excited fans spilled onto the court. U-M men's basketball, after lurching around for more than ten years in a largely self-induced coma, had rejoined the living. The Wolverines were up and down the rest of the season, but made the NCAA Tournament for what was, officially, the first time in fourteen years (many 1990s appearances were forfeited in the Ed Martin booster scandal). This year, most preseason polls put the Michigan men in the top twenty-five in the country. That may underestimate this year's brutal Big Ten competition, but head coach John Beilein and his staff have shaped Michigan's most cohesive team in at least thirty years. And, after last year's excitement, Crisler will be busier this time around. Preseason student season ticket sales jumped fivefold, to more than 2,500.

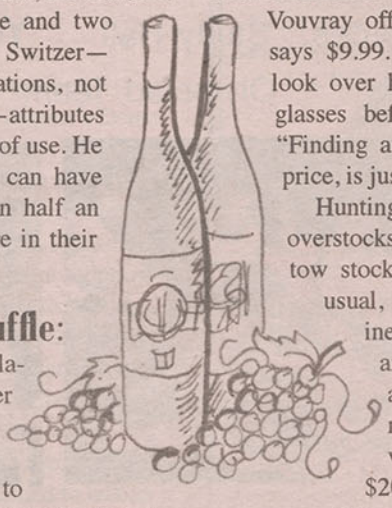
Blast from the past: It's not easy to find the office of ClassCreator.com on Packard. "We've been too busy to put up a sign," explains founder and CEO Brad Switzer. A 1986 Pioneer High grad, Switzer was asked to do a pro-bono website for his class's twenty-year reunion—and almost immediately recognized the potential of a business that would make it easy for classes to create their own sites. For eighteen months, Switzer paid programmers to develop wizards, templates, and other simple tools for planning reunions. He used his own money to help dozens of reunion organizers develop their own sites at no charge.



Then, this past January, ClassCreator.com launched a billing system, charging a maximum of $9 per month to reunion site administrators. Other class members pay nothing—and by September, more than 600,000 had signed up. With revenues of $40,000–$50,000 per month, the company now has seven full-time and two part-time employees. Switzer—who studied communications, not programming, at EMU—attributes the site's success to ease of use. He says reunion organizers can have a site up and running in half an hour, and many users are in their seventies.

Sex offender shuffle: When they moved to Glacier Hills, Henry Vander Kaay and his wife, Doretha, since deceased, gave their home next to Eberwhite Woods to the Salvation Army. Last year, the church put it up for sale, planning to use the money to provide more scholarships to its summer camps. Things seemed to be going well, says listing agent Jackie Wright. A couple offered a very handsome price, signed a contract, and paid for a home inspection. But then, Wright says, they learned that the woods belong to the public schools. The husband was a registered sex offender—and state law prohibited him from living within 1,000 feet of school property.

The $235,000 house ended up being occupied by the church's own youth director. He'll live there for a year, says Major John Williams, after which the Army will again try to sell the house—hopefully in "a little stronger housing market." And, Williams adds, "donors stepped up to cover the day camp." This summer attendance quadrupled, to sixty kids a week.



Wenk's wines: Obscured by the greeting cards, candy, and convenience items at Wenk's Prescription Shop is a little known but carefully selected collection of wine. The space is tight. Bottles are displayed upright in deep shelves, around a single display table, or in open boxes on the floor. Almost all carry a small red discount sticker. Hugo Ristow, who manages alcohol sales for Wenk's, pulls a bottle of Vouvray off the shelf. The sticker says $9.99. He shoots a knowing look over his small, steel-rimmed glasses before cracking a smile. "Finding a wine like this, at this price, is just fun. It's a riot."

Hunting through distributor overstocks and closeouts, Ristow stocks his shelves with unusual, though not necessarily inexpensive, wines from around the world. He digs around for a dry Tasmanian Riesling he likes. It was originally priced at $20 a bottle. Wenks bought the last few cases and is selling it for $5. When we talked to him in September, Ristow had only a half dozen bottles left. "Only problem is," he observes of such finds, "when it's gone, it's gone."

Cross-dressing thief: Why does Vie Fitness & Spa have a new security system? Because, when owner Heather Dupuis opened her Ashley Street storefront early one September morning, she found a man inside wearing nothing but a pair of hot pink women's spandex shorts. She recognized the shorts: they were a brand called Lululemon, and he'd taken them from one of the store's display racks.

Crouching in fear, the thief begged Dupuis not to call the police. After Dupuis ordered him out, she did just that and learned there had been several other break-ins in the area. Searching the spa, she found two laptop computers missing.

Apparently the thief got rid of the computers—but couldn't resist coming back to try on the shorts. The only other items missing were a couple of bottles of tropical-scented body lotion. In her office, Dupuis found a neatly folded pile of men's clothing. ■

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Millage Fight

Asked what he'll be doing the evening of November 3, Ann Arbor schools superintendent Todd Roberts smiles wanly and replies: "Worrying!"

The source of his anxiety: the vote on a proposed tax that would pump an additional $30 million a year into Washtenaw County school districts, including $11 million to the AAPS. Roberts says the district has already cut $16 million in spending over the last four years, but, with state revenue continuing to fall, it could lose another $15 million next year. If the "enhancement" millage doesn't pass, he says, "everything is on the table" to balance the budget, possibly including the first teacher layoffs since the 1960s.

Despite its name, the money will only "maintain existing programs, not approve new ones," points out former school board president Karen Cross, a coleader of the Ann Arbor Citizens Millage Committee (a2cmc.org). The five-year, 2-mill tax would cost the owner of a $200,000 home an extra $200 a year. The money would be collected by the Washtenaw Intermediate School District and divided up among the county's ten school districts based on enrollment.

Nine of the ten school boards voted unanimously to ask WISD to put the millage on the ballot. The tenth, Manchester, recorded just one dissenting vote. Ann Arbor PTSO council cochair Donna Lasinski says parent volunteers are organizing at every school in the city to canvass their neighborhoods and make phone calls. A leader of the pro-millage group, Lasinski predicts that if it doesn't pass, "it will lead to a devastation of the programs Ann Arbor is going to offer."

Lasinski points out that every state elected official in the WISD area supports the millage, and the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce, which many expected to oppose it, is silent. But the Washtenaw County Republican Party is campaigning against it, and two new groups have sprung up to fight it.

In mid-October, McKinley CEO Albert Berriz organized a political action committee called Citizens for a Responsible Washtenaw. Berriz says he's a strong believer in public education and supports some taxes—he helped lead the fight for Ann Arbor's 2003 greenbelt millage—but says it's "unethical and irresponsible" for the schools to ask for more money now. The eastern part of the county, he says, is in "tumult" from lost auto jobs and foreclosures—and "when you're on the edge, $200 is life and death." He also argues that it's unfair that Ann Arbor would pay $16 million in taxes into the enhancement fund but get back only $11 million.

Berriz says his campaign is "totally collaborative" with another opposition group, Citizens for Responsible School Spending (a2crss.org). Led by retired computer entrepreneur Ted Annis and former Ann Arbor school board member Kathy Griswold, CRSS criticizes the school district's high taxes, arguing that the city is "already very generous to its schools." Griswold also finds it unfair that Ann Arbor receives about $2,000 more in state funding per pupil than most Michigan districts. If the millage goes down, she says, local residents will be "forced to work with reps in Lansing for a statewide solution." (Former schools administrator Bob Galardi says he doubts that will happen—in the legislature, he says, Ann Arbor students are dismissed as "poor little rich kids.")

MARK BIALEK

Superintendent Todd Roberts says the schools could lose another $15 million in state revenue next year and may have to lay off teachers if the millage fails. Opponents say this is no time to raise taxes—and one calls for consolidating the county's ten school districts.

Annis says rejecting the millage would force the schools to "develop a more effective and innovative way of delivering education." Instead of more money, Berriz argues, what they need is the "discipline" to cut costs and combine districts. Berriz says he could envision "one consolidated school district, one central office" for the entire county.

Supporters are hoping to turn out a strong yes vote from Ann Arbor, which normally supports both schools and millages. But with an active opposition and a recession-weary public, the norm may not hold—which is why Roberts and the nine other superintendents are worried.

"We are a group of ten local school districts facing financial disaster," says Chelsea superintendent Dave Killips. "We might be a step behind other schools in heading toward that cliff, but if this doesn't pass, we're all going to fall off it."

Two Council Challenges

A pair of independents are trying to make November matter.

The big fight for Ann Arbor city council seats was in August's Democratic primary: in Ward 3, Steve Kunselman edged out veteran rep Leigh Greden, while Mike Anglin convincingly defended his Fifth Ward seat. Kunselman, Anglin, and Ward 3 incumbent Stephen Rapundalo, a onetime Republican turned Democrat, will coast through the Nov. 3 election unopposed. But in Wards 1 and 4, Democratic incumbents Sabra Briere and Marcia Higgins face challengers running as independents. Both are political newcomers, and both declined to talk to the Observer in person or on the phone, insisting on answering questions only by email.

In north-side Ward One, Briere, fifty-eight, emphasizes her responsiveness to constituents and her cooperative attitude on council. Identified with a small group critical of mayor John Hieftje, she questions whether some council business is conducted "away from the public eye." But Briere, who works at Ypsilanti's Corner Health Center, says she works well with Hieftje—most recently on homelessness—and sees herself as an independent thinker. "I'm me," she stresses. She is dubious about a possible city income tax and supports retaining Argo Dam.

Her challenger, Polish-born Mitchell Ozog, fifty, writes that he was briefly imprisoned in the early 1980s for his support of the Solidarity movement. He moved to Ann Arbor in 1989 and now edits a Masonic magazine. A former Republican First Ward precinct delegate, Ozog lists his "major city concerns" as limiting the use of eminent domain and reducing "unnecessary business operation regulations." He opposes a city income tax and sees no need to remove Argo Dam.

Elected first as a Republican, Marcia Higgins, fifty-nine, switched parties in 2005 and is now seeking her sixth term in Ward 4. Despite the hard times, she says, the city must both maintain strong core services and continue funding human services to protect "vulnerable populations." Higgins opposes any expansion of the Ann Arbor Airport, which adjoins her south-side ward, and says the city needs to study the airport's environmental impact, particularly on nearby city water wells. She thinks voters should decide the fate of an income tax and supports maintaining Argo Dam.

Hatim Elhady, a twenty-three-year-old U-M undergrad, says that no one asked him to run against Higgins, but he's endorsed by Mike Anglin, and Elhady's campaign manager, Pat Lesko, and treasurer, Karen Sidney, also are

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outspoken critics of Mayor Hieftje and the council majority. Elhady writes that he, "along with other fellow Fourth ward neighbors and residents of other wards in Ann Arbor are quite frankly fed up with being neglected and our issues ignored." He singles out zoning changes that have "negatively affected our welfare, and the failing Stadium Bridges." As for Argo Pond, he writes vehemently, "DAM IN!"

Without party backing, Ozog and Elhady have to be regarded as long shots. But at least they're keeping the council races interesting.

Right-sizing the Art Center

A year ago, the Ann Arbor Art Center was carrying $450,000 in debt. Now the arts education and promotion group is entering its second century with almost $250,000 in the bank.

What a difference a well-timed sale makes: this past February, the art center sold the "Art Factory," its studio building on Felch Street, to Icon Technologies for $950,000—about $300,000 more than it cost to buy and renovate it in 1996.

Back then, art center CEO Marsha Chamberlin says, the mortgage payment was less than the center was spending to rent studio space elsewhere. And few worried about the debt when the economy was strong: in 2001, the center's Wine-Fest fund-raiser alone netted $225,000. But student fees never covered the cost of running the Art Factory, and dona-

MARK BIALEK

When WineFest revenues plunged, Ann Arbor Art Center CEO Marsha Chamberlin sold the Felch Street "Art Factory." The studios moved to the center's building on West Liberty, where potters now work in the front window.

tions have plunged: this year's WineFest brought in just $62,000.

The center's staff, which peaked at eighteen in 1997, has shrunk to eleven people. The studios are back at the center's headquarters on West Liberty, which was renovated this summer.

Chamberlin says she is thrilled with the changes, which included taking back some adjoining space the center had previously rented out. Most visibly, an exhibit gallery was moved upstairs, making room for a pottery studio right in the front display window. At the Art Factory, Chamberlin says, prospective students "had to go looking" for the studios. "Now," she says with a smile, "it is going to be in their face."

Chamberlin, a former potter, was hired as the group's first paid director in 1979 and has led it ever since. She says having everything under one roof makes the center much easier to manage. And, without the Art Factory's mortgage to pay, "we are weaning ourselves from using WineFest to pay operating expenses. Our goal is for the profits of WineFest to be used solely as cash reserves."

This year, the art center also came up with a new fund-raiser: hoop-shaped bike racks that announced "art" in colorful letters. Paid for by the DDA, they've popped up all over downtown. Thirty center supporters and nearby businesses have contributed $1,000 each to sponsor a rack.

MARK BIALEK

At Pizza Bob's, Pam Pietryga triples her staff on football Saturdays. But Pietryga and others say that game days aren't as crazy as they were a few years ago, reflecting weakness in both the team and the economy.

The Football Economy

"When Michigan's winning, we get calls from the stadium placing orders," said Pam Pietryga, co-owner of Pizza Bob's.

On football weekends, Pietryga says, business at her State Street pizza and sub shop starts picking up on Fridays, with orders delivered to RVs parked at Pioneer High School and elsewhere. On game day itself, Pizza Bob's schedules all twenty of its student employees—compared to a normal weekend shift of six.

A 2007 report by the Anderson Economic Group estimated that U-M football contributes well over $100 million a year to the Ann Arbor area economy. That's almost $12 million worth of tickets, food, lodging, and shopping per game.

"A good amount of money is dropped in Ann Arbor," says Sarah Okuyama, innkeeper at Burnt Toast Inn, a bed and breakfast with two locations near downtown. She sells out most game weekends, often to older alumni who want to savor Ann Arbor again. And her guests buy more than Michigan memorabilia: "Fans go to art galleries and shopping," says Okuyama. "Football has a powerful impact on the city."

At Bivouac on State Street, parents of current students sometimes come in before the game to pick up raincoats or winter wear for their kids, says owner Ed Davidson. "People are in a good mood—they're on vacation and they have time to shop." Most sales come before the game, but Bivouac is busy all weekend.

Yet other business owners say that Michigan football isn't giving them the boost it once did—partly because the team is not as strong as it used to be, and partly because the economy is so much weaker.

"It's not quite as easy to fill up," says James Koen, general manager of the 197-room Four Points by Sheraton near Briarwood. Koen says his customers are more budget conscious and likely to shop around—so the hotel has actually lowered rates on some rooms during football weekends.

A football weekend is no longer "a guaranteed sellout," agrees Weber's Inn general manager John Staples. To save money, fewer fans now stay overnight—or even for a big dinner after the game. Staples says Weber's even hosts wedding receptions on football Saturdays—something that would have been unthinkable a few years ago.

Even at Pizza Bob's, game days aren't as busy as they were three or four years ago, says Pam Pietryga. Still, there's

question corner

Q. What is the status of the West Towne condos at the northwest corner of Maple and Liberty?

A. The plans approved by City Council in July 2005 called for eighty-seven units in eight buildings. Construction began the following year, and the first building was ready for an open house in October 2008. According to developer Mike Concannon, five of the building's eleven units are finished, but none is occupied.

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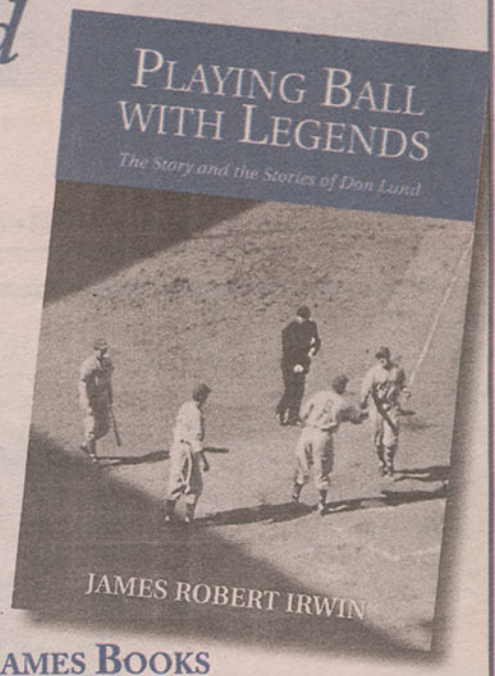

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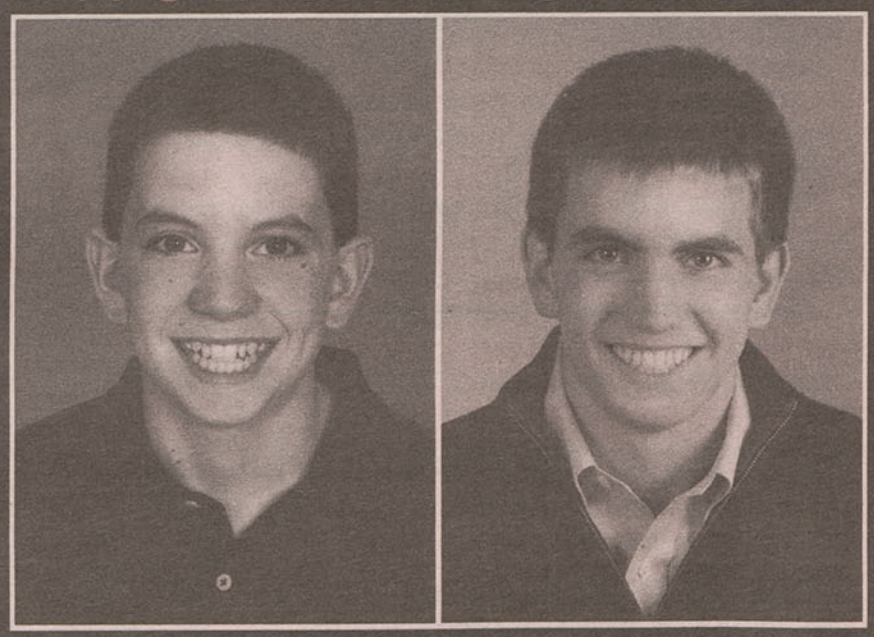

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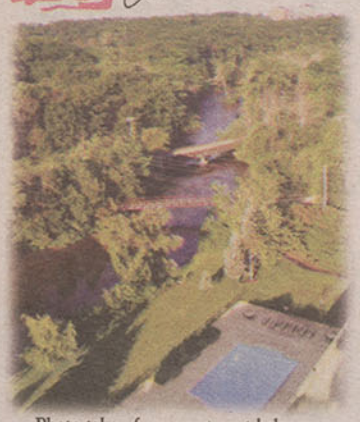

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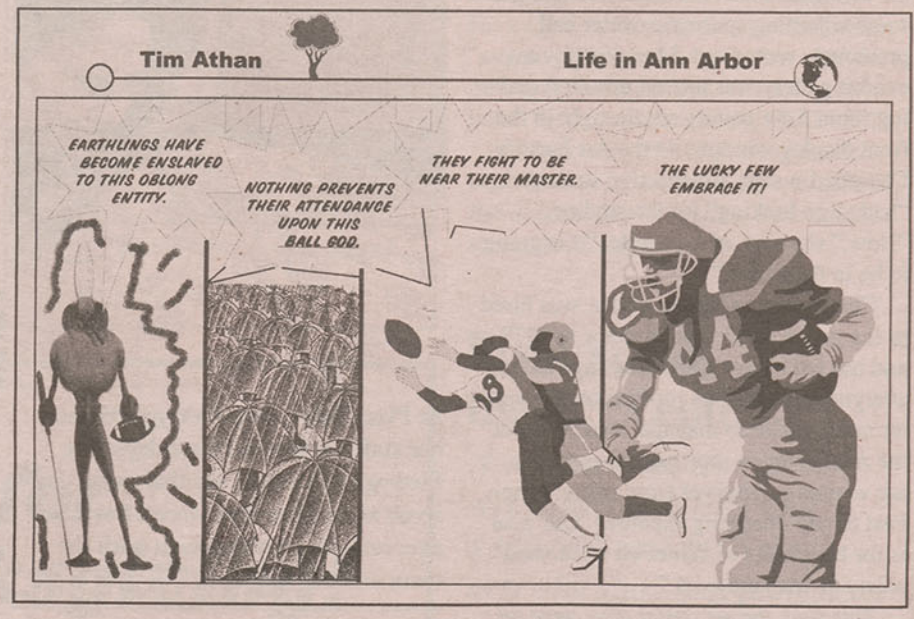
Inside Ann Arbor

plenty to do—especially since she and her husband, Terry, a radiologist, have season tickets. "I help out until a half hour before the game starts—and then I run" to the stadium, she says. She leaves at the end of the third quarter and listens to the last minutes of the game on the radio.

One thing that hasn't changed is the traffic jams. Located a block from the athletic campus, Pizza Bob's has to suspend delivery in the fourth quarter because the streets are too clogged for their drivers to get through. They don't start again until about two hours after the game.


Tim Athan
Life in Ann Arbor
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THEY FIGHT TO BE NEAR THEIR MASTER.
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calls & letters

Courthouse Square

After reading our October feature on Courthouse Square, resident Ruth Darcy rolled her wheelchair into the Observer office to make two corrections. It wasn't she who called the building's problem tenants "white trash and ghetto blacks," Darcy explained: "I said, *other* people would call them that. I never use those terms." And while she believes the building's management should screen prospective tenants better and check in on elderly residents more often, that doesn't mean she wants the building sold: "I worked nine years to get these people [the current managers] to respect me."

We also misidentified the nonprofit that intervened on behalf of the tenant involved in a knifing. It was the Housing Bureau for Seniors.

Several residents called to defend their building. "I've just started my thirteenth year here, and I have to regard the article as a hatchet job," said John Syler. "I'm in a wheelchair, and I'm not the least afraid. Yeah, we've got drunks in here, you've got drunks anywhere….We've got quite a cast of characters, like a mini-UN or the second sailing of the Titanic. People are, by and large, good folks."

"The article was so negative, the good things here didn't get any attention," agreed Chuck Swanagon. Swanagon, a guitar teacher at the Herb David studio, organizes regular jam nights in the building's ballroom. "Every six, seven weeks, we throw a big party for the residents," he says. "The musicians all have a good time, the people all have a good time."

Other callers appreciated having the issues raised. "I don't think our senior citizens need to live in an environment which they don't think is safe," said Rosemary Wilson, who had to move her mother out of Courthouse Square when she grew frightened by its growing population of subsidized tenants. "In Ann Arbor, that's what you end up with, because we're socially conscious," she reflected. "On the one hand, I want to help them. On the other hand, I don't want to live around them."

Ray's Red Hots

"I had a couple of people say, 'Gee, Dick, I didn't know you were that kind of guy,'" Dick Johnston said in a phone call.

Johnston's callers had read our October Marketplace Changes article on the conversion of Red Hot Lovers, owned by Troy Slade, to Ray's Red Hots, owned by Johnston's son Ray. Slade said he left because Dick Johnston refused to give him a long-term lease.

"Never did I discuss any kind of lease with Troy Slade," Johnston said. "Slade quit paying, so we had to evict him." When we wrote about RHL's closing back in March, Johnston said, he hadn't wanted to comment on Slade's version because they were still in court. But he emphasized that far from forcing RHL out, he'd done his best to support it. "A couple, three years ago, we got an unsolicited offer from the developers of Zaragon Place [to buy the building]. One of the principal reasons we turned down the offer was we didn't want to put [Red Hot Lovers] out of business."

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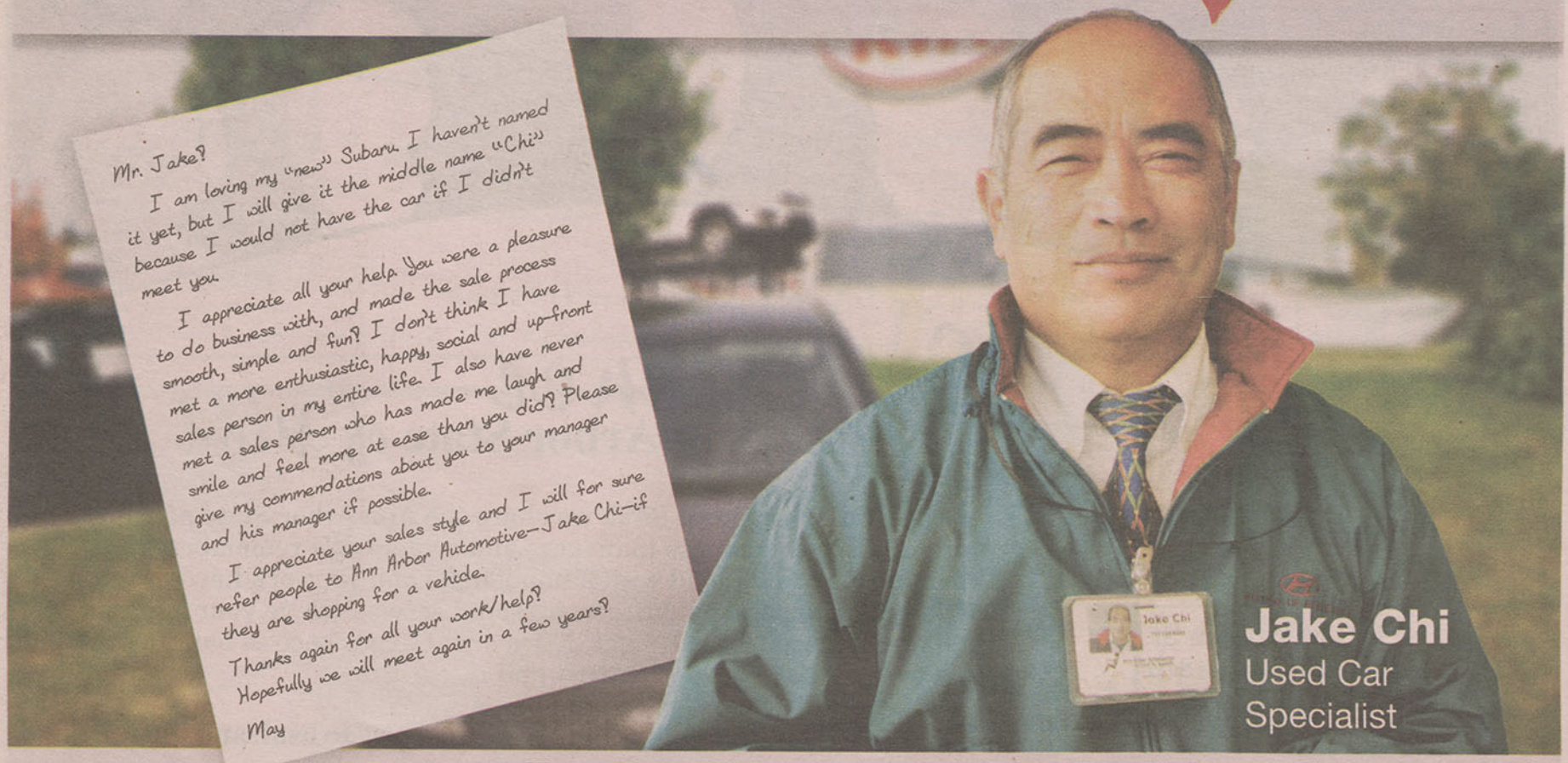
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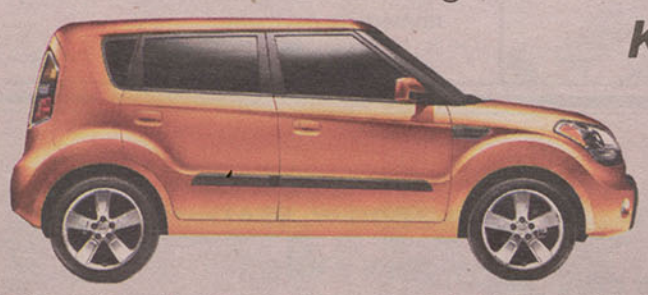

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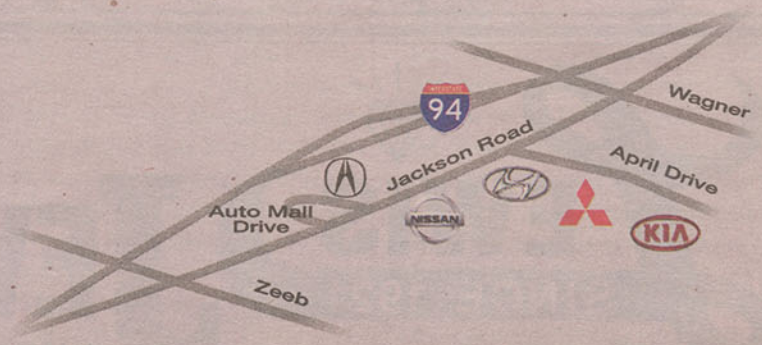
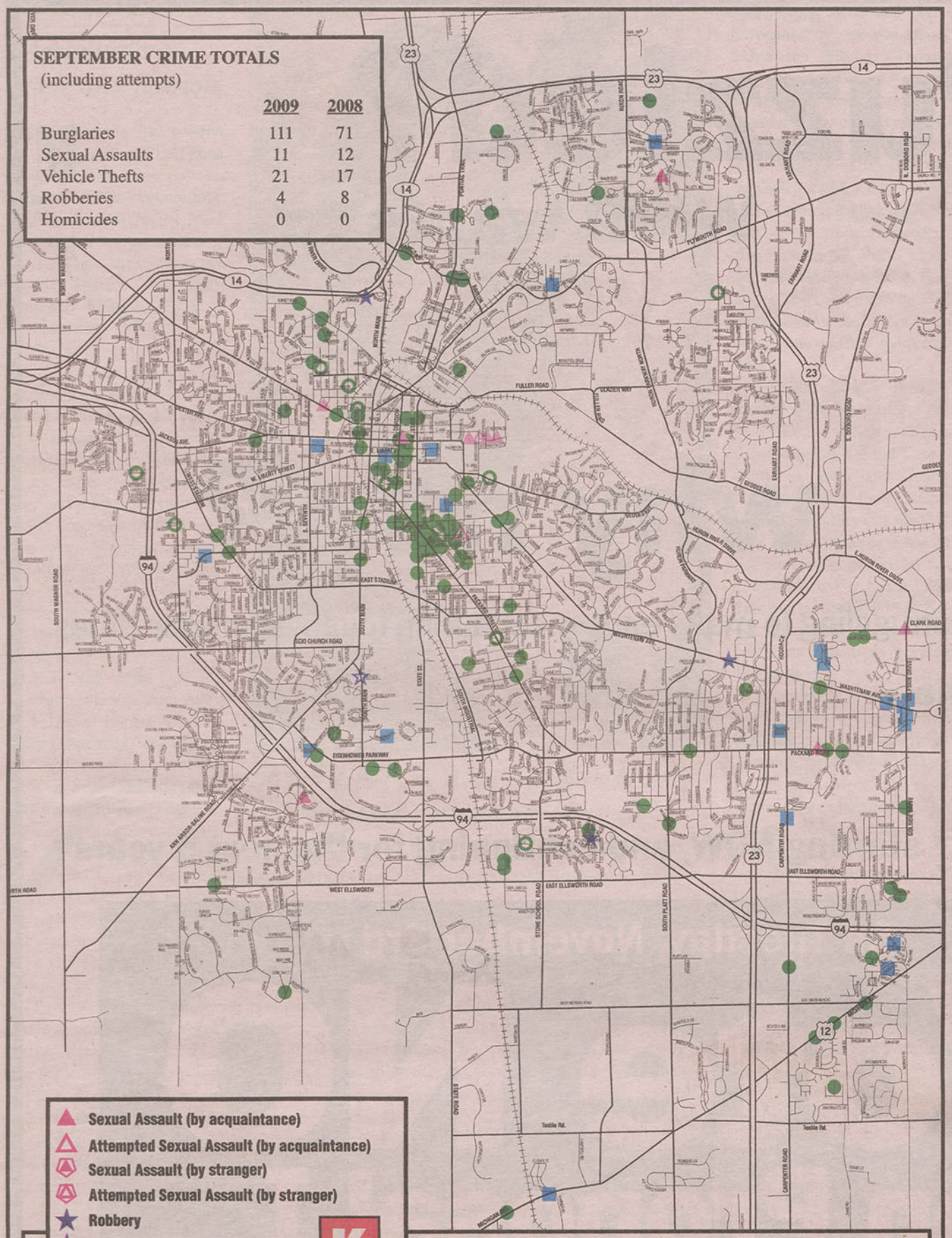


CrimeMap

SEPTEMBER CRIME TOTALS
(including attempts)

	2009	2008
Burglaries	111	71
Sexual Assaults	11	12
Vehicle Thefts	21	17
Robberies	4	8
Homicides	0	0



- Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- Attempted Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- Attempted Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- Robbery
- Attempted Robbery
- Burglary
- Attempted Burglary
- Vehicle Theft
- Attempted Vehicle Theft

KEY

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **September 2009.** Because locations are reported by block rather than by address, placement is approximate.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map shows the number of crimes reported in September 2009 and September 2008.

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*This is representational of the percentage rate increase for a homeowner's school tax in the Ann Arbor Public School district. All homeowners in school districts within Washtenaw County would be taxed an additional 2 mills and the percentage varies by district.

Leif Elias

Merging fair trade and fashion

"Mom is the creative one," says Leif Elias. "I'm more business minded." Elias, twenty-nine, and her mother Nancy Elias, fifty-seven, are co-owners of Orchid Lane, the clothing and jewelry business that Nancy launched when Leif was in kindergarten.

Orchid Lane, Leif explains, grew out of her artist mom's experience living in a Guatemalan village in the 1970s. "My mother got to know the women there, saw the traditional crafts they were making, and wanted to create an outlet to keep them alive," she says. "When women are forced to leave the village and get an industry job, they stop doing the craft, and it dies. My mom didn't want to see that happen."

Returning to the U.S., her mother settled in Ann Arbor and began importing crafts from Guatemala, selling them out of the basement of Bivouac on State. "We were actually out on the street with a little cart, because nobody knew we were down there," Leif Elias recalls. Her stepfather, Bruno Weckert, also an artist, worked with them in growing the start-up. Nancy Elias started a clothing line, which her daughter now helps design.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

In Ann Arbor, Leif Elias says, Orchid Lane was "one of the originators of fair trade" retailing. What is fair trade? "Selling goods at a fair price," she says, "and ensuring that people making the craft get a fair price and fair living wage."

Twenty-three years later, the business has evolved into two stores on Liberty. Orchid Lane sells a broad range of clothing for women and men—some of which is "eco-chic" and made from recycled fabrics—as well as handcrafted gemstone jewelry, purses, and other items. Next door, Orchid Lane Warehouse sells clothing and accessories for $15 and under.

In Ann Arbor, "we were one of the originators of fair trade" retailing, says Leif Elias. What exactly does fair trade mean? "Selling goods at a fair price," Elias says, "and ensuring that people making the craft get a fair price and fair living wage."

Elias spends about three months a year on the road. She, her husband Chad Snell, and her mother travel to countries like India, Ecuador, Peru, and Mexico to meet their suppliers. "We insist on visiting the factories, the workshops, and the areas where the clothing is being produced," she says. They talk to the business owners (seventy-five percent of whom are female) and to employees and also look for signs of exploitation: "Is the facility clean? Do they have good facilities and running water? Management is not going to pay their workers unfairly and then maintain nice standards—the conditions and quality of their workspace tell a lot about how workers are being paid." Elias won't be pinned down on what the workers earn, knowing the numbers will seem small by American standards, but insists it's a "living wage" that's higher than other jobs pay in those areas.

Elias is a petite brunette with expressive eyes (she models clothes on the stores' website). Sitting in a cubbyhole in the back of the business office, behind a desk with a couple of small sculptured gourds on it, she is friendly but brisk, eager to get back to work. That's how she is—waking up after knee surgery two years ago, she immediately called the store to make sure everything was running smoothly.

When Elias entered her mother's business, she brought in more clothing. It's aimed at younger women, with form-fitting skirts and pants in contrast to one-size-fits-all skirts and ponchos. Though most items still come from the developing world, some are made in America, and recently she had a few pocketbooks for sale from China (though she generally doesn't like buying Chinese products because she can't easily monitor production conditions there). Last summer, she opened a new store in Lansing, called La Bodega, patterned after the warehouse. She'd like to open other stores.

Carved wooden Buddhas displayed on shelves and the sweet smells of jasmine and incense heighten Orchid Lane's exotic quality. But many customers shop for practical items. Elias welcomes the holiday season, because some of her best-sellers are winter accessories—wool, fleece-lined hats and mittens made in Nepal. A close second: reversible silk skirts made from recycled Indian saris.

A fiercely independent only child and Huron High grad, Elias attended college at Vanderbilt University, where she majored in math and computer science engineering. The school's old-fashioned traditions startled her.

"You didn't attend class in sweats, and guys formally asked girls to attend football games with them—and we'd wear cocktail dresses," she remembers. The experience made her appreciate Ann Arbor all the more.

"I had to leave to realize that I wanted to come back," says Elias. "There's no place like it."

Though she had worked in the family business since she was fourteen, progressing from salesgirl to bookkeeper to buyer, running it herself wasn't originally part of her master plan.

"I sort of felt that people would look at it as a fallback for me. Like I wasn't able to cut it anywhere else," Elias says. But she liked the freedom the store gave her, and her inner entrepreneur emerged. She and her mom did have to make adjustments as co-owners. "A lot of times we fall into a pattern of 'mother-daughter,'" she says. "But my mother does trust my opinion."

And Elias—whose first name, Leif, means "heir"—likes keeping the business in the family. "I have a responsibility," she says, "not only to my parents but to my employees, the community, and the artisans we work with to keep the cycle going."

—Courtney Conover

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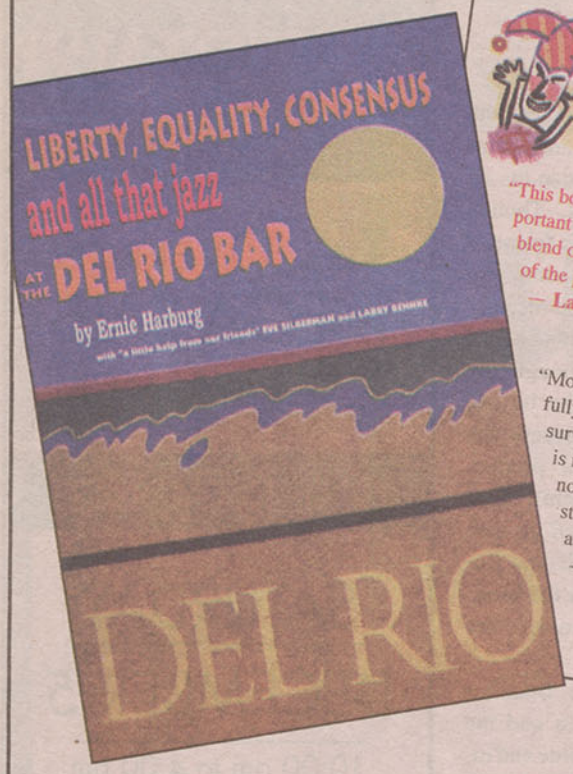

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Trophy CSI

Is the Little Brown Jug a fake?

On the evening of November 19, 1931, a Cadillac pulled up to the two-level gas station on Washtenaw (today home to Bearclaw Coffee). According to the *Michigan Daily*, the driver and passengers had obscured their faces with "dark goggles" and "hats pulled down over their eyes." They rolled a five-gallon ceramic jug out of the car and sped off.

K.D. Smith, the attendant on duty, scooped up the crock. Painted on its side was a tally of football scores between the U-M and the University of Minnesota dating back to 1903. For weeks, the Michigan athletic department had been conducting a very public hunt for the Little Brown Jug, a trophy the teams had fought over since 1909. Now, it seemed, it had been found.

But while the *Daily* reported that university officials "practically proved the authenticity" of the jug, the *Ann Arbor Daily News* dismissed it as an "imitation." When Michigan defeated the Golden Gophers, 6–0, a few days later to retain the trophy, the *News* wrote that the Wolverines had been "spared the embarrassment" of having to surrender the "bogus" replica.

When the Wolverines played in Minneapolis the following year, the *Minnesota Daily* reported that "talk of the genuineness or phoneyness of the jug waxed hot in barber shops and fraternity houses." The chief skeptic was Minnesota equipment manager Oscar Munson. "They've been shoving a spurious water container off on us for years," claimed Munson, the man who helped start the tradition by finding the drinking jug the Wolverines left behind after a tie game in 1903.

Yet according to the Minnesota paper, Michigan athletic director Fielding Yost "didn't even wink" when he assured reporters that it was authentic. "Why sure, it's the real jug," insisted Yost, who coached that 1903 game. "Take a look at it. Does it look like a phoney?" Michigan won the 1932 game, 3–0, and took the suspect prize back to Ann Arbor.

But in August 1933, the trophy was back in the news—when *another* version mysteriously appeared. According to the *Chicago Tribune*, this one was found "in a clump of bushes near the medical building" (today's C.C. Little Science Building).

Yost then vouched for the authenticity of the *new* jug. "I hope that some day the person who had the jug the two years it was missing will write me a letter and tell me the story of what was done with it while it was gone," he told reporters. The Wolverines and Golden Gophers tied that season, leaving the jug in Michigan's possession. But the following year, the Gophers hammered center and linebacker Gerald Ford and the Wolverines, 34–0, to reclaim the prize.

Michigan leads the trophy series, 66–22, with three ties. The jug has been in Ann Arbor since 2006 and will remain here at least until 2011; due to a scheduling snafu, Minnesota and Michigan do not play this season or next. But don't go to Schembechler Hall expecting to see the famous vessel—the one on display is a replica. The trophy itself is kept in an undisclosed location.

No wonder that 100 years after Michigan and Minnesota first played for the prize, some still wonder whether today's official Little Brown Jug is the original or a fake.

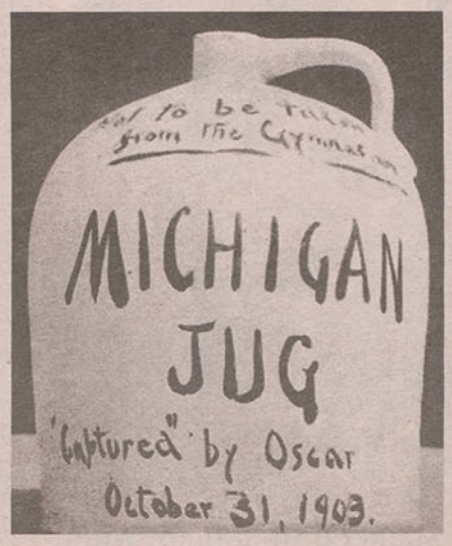
This past winter I wrote about the 1909 season in *Hail to the Victors 2009*, a Michigan preseason football guide. The 1909 Minnesota game was the first time the teams met since the jug was left behind in 1903, and the first in which the trophy was at stake. Wondering whether it had really survived for a century, I read what I could find about its history. Since the news accounts from the 1930s were so contradictory, I started to snoop around, beginning by talking to the men who have protected it over the years.

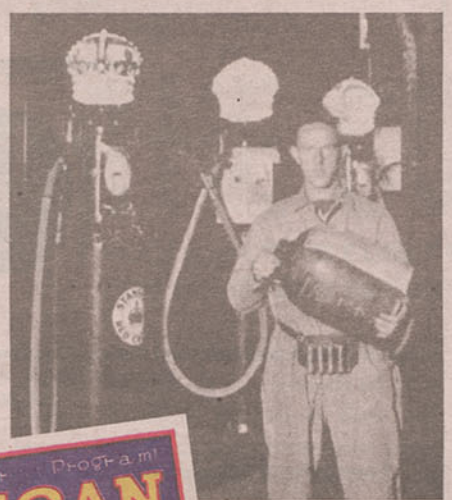
Michigan equipment manager Jon Falk has had custody of the jug for most of his thirty-six years on the job. Falk says that his understanding is that the trophy he's got tucked away is indeed the real thing. Retiree Bob Hurst, who started at the department in 1945 and worked directly with Hank Hatch, equipment manager from 1919 to 1964, says he was always told the jug was genuine.

On the other sideline, Oscar Munson had dismissed the "Cadillac" trophy but vouched for the one found in the bushes: "It's the original jug, all right," he said before the 1935 game, "and I'm the only one who knows." Longtime Gopher equipment manager Dick Mattson, who served from 1963 to 2008, agrees. Though Minnesota held the prize only six times during his tenure, "it's the original jug," Mattson insists.

Others well versed in the Michigan tradition are less positive. "We're just not sure" if the trophy is the original, says Bruce Madej, the longtime Wolverine sports media relations director. Greg Kinney, curator of the athletic archives housed at the U-M Bentley Historical Library, says he isn't certain, either. And former head coach Lloyd Carr told me he always believed the trophy *wasn't* the original jug.

With the experts disagreeing, that left the jug itself. It was time for a forensic investigation, like the ones you see on those TV crime dramas.





Top: The jug as it looked after being "captured" by Minnesota equipment manager Oscar Munson in 1903. Left: A crucial piece of evidence: a 1923 program that shows a differently styled Minnesota "M." Above left: Attendant K.D. Smith with the version dropped off at a gas station on Washtenaw in 1931—which turned out to be an impostor. Above right: A century after the first game for the jug, master potter Ryan Forrey finally resolved the question of authenticity this year.

The athletic department granted my request to inspect the jug, and with Jon Falk on hand I took a variety of photos from several angles. Using a graphics editing program, I then compared these with a photo of the jug taken before 1910. The spout, handle, and shoulder looked dead on, but the current jug seemed slightly shorter. Of course, perspectives can change drastically depending on the angle of the camera and distortion in the lenses.

Seeking an expert perspective, I took the photos to Ryan Forrey, master potter at Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Forrey inspected the new and old images, paying particular attention to the handle, a distinctive element of handmade jugs. Forrey thought they looked the same but said he needed to hold the jug to be sure.

Several weeks later, Falk met Forrey and me at Schembechler Hall. Falk had taken the jug out of the protective crate where it's kept and set it atop a table in the equipment room.

Forrey quickly found two critical features that I'd missed. Beneath the Minnesota "M" logo painted on one side of the jug, he pointed out a small flaw or notch that matched one visible in the pre-1910 photo. And just above the same "M," he spotted a pair of raised, triangular areas under the paint—traces of an earlier, sharp-pointed "M" that had been painted over.

Forrey had seen enough. Considering the photo comparisons, distinctive shape of the handle, the notch, and the ghostly Minnesota logo, he said, "I'd be shocked if this isn't the original jug."

Digging through articles and photos from the 1920s, I later found two images of the jug displaying a pointed Minnesota "M": one in the program for the 1923 game, and another 1927 photo of Minnesota captain Herb Joesting cradling the crock. Since both images predate the shady doings of the early 1930s, I'm confident the jug in Michigan's custody is authentic.

I'm also certain that for at least two years in the 1930s, the U-M tried to pass off a replica as the real thing. I don't know who created the "Cadillac" jug, or where the real trophy was at the time. For what it's worth, though, Minnesota's Oscar Munson never had any doubt: he always claimed the Little Brown Jug had spent those years "in Mr. Yost's cellar."

—Greg Dooley

"OSCAR" JUG AND 1923 PROGRAM COURTESY U-M BENTLEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY; PHOTO OF K.D. SMITH FROM *MICHIGANENSIAN*; PHOTO OF RYAN FORREY BY GREG DOOLEY

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

— BY VICKIE ELMER —

THE COLDEST WINTER

WITH SHELTERS BURSTING AT THE SEAMS, HOMELESS ACTIVISTS ARE SCRAMBLING FOR SOLUTIONS BEFORE THE THERMOMETER DROPS TO DEADLY.

The line outside St. Andrew's Episcopal Church starts forming before 7 a.m. Sometimes as many as sixty men, women, and teens wait for the doors to open to free hot oatmeal, grits, and coffee. At night, more are seeking shelter at the Delonis Center or local churches. Some who can't find a place, or can't abide the place's rules, sleep out in parks and vacant lots. Others cram their kids and their possessions into a car or SUV and sleep on side streets or in friendly gas station lots for weeks at a time.

A census last January found 640 homeless people living in Ann Arbor. The number has grown by at least 30 percent since then, says Ellen Schulmeister, executive director of the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County. And the county office of community development estimates that thousands more are at imminent risk of losing their housing, more than half of them families with children. With the jobless rate in Ann Arbor approaching 10 percent, predicts Schulmeister, "we will see more people fall into homelessness."

The region currently has about 140 beds in shelters. To get ready for the winter, several groups are working on short-term solutions, from more temporary shelter beds in churches to developing an official tent city. The Shelter Association is collaborating with the city, the county, other nonprofits, and some churches to help people such as Mark Vincent Nadon, who's been sleeping outside or in his truck for almost two years.

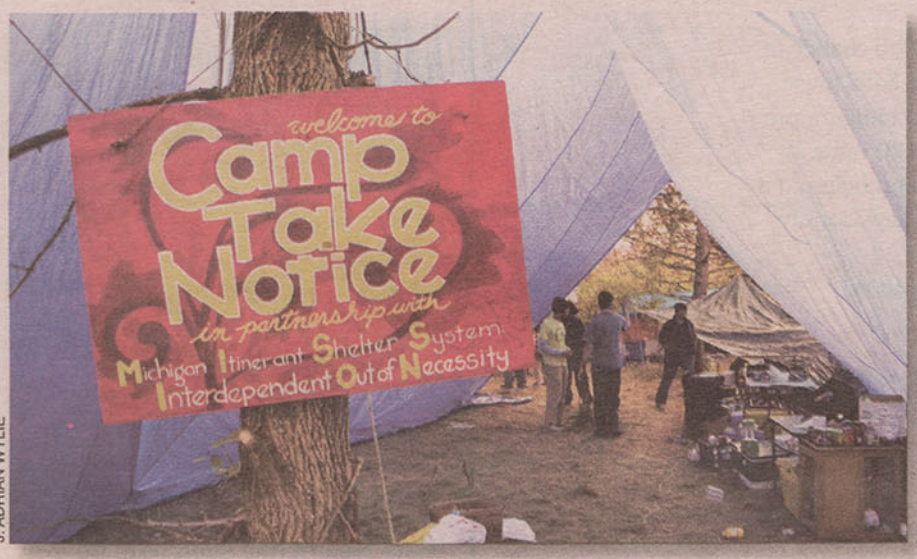
Nadon, a regular at the daily St. Andrew's breakfast, tries in turn to help those who are newly homeless with advice and information. "They look just like everybody else," he says. "But they're in crisis, and they don't understand the options just yet." The tall blond man adds: "It's shameful—what's going on," referring to the September eviction of the tent city dubbed Camp Take Notice from a site behind Arborland.

Smaller homeless encampments—often only one to three people—have taken root in many places around Ann Arbor. There's a futon mattress on the portico of St. Andrew's on Division, and a handful of people sleep on the grounds of First United Methodist Church at State and Huron. Homeless men and women sometimes sleep on picnic table benches or under the trees at West Park; others stay near I-94 off State Street, along the Huron River, and on various wooded lots around town.

As cold weather approaches, the need for shelter increases. About sixteen churches already take in a total of twenty-five people a night during the winter on a rotating basis. Activists are asking them to take more and are also seeking extra volunteers.

"I would imagine most congregations already involved would be willing to step up and do more," says Rev. Paul Duke of First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor. His church built a small pavilion for people to sleep in and has been reassessing what more can be done. Duke calls the growing number of homeless people in Ann Arbor "the biggest moral issue the city faces."

"These are extraordinary times," says Mayor John Hieftje, who's been involved in the planning. "I don't think we've seen anything like this since the Great Depression." The city and county are seeking funding to add twenty-five beds in a second rotating shelter and twenty-five more overflow spaces at Delonis, plus temporary housing vouchers for ten families. Hieftje says the goal is to have it all in place by Thanksgiving.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

After being evicted twice this fall, organizers are looking for a legal site for the tent city they call Camp Take Notice. For now, they're regrouping in an undisclosed location and preparing for winter.

At Camp Take Notice, a group of local activists and homeless people is trying to develop an officially sanctioned tent city. They say the ten or so residents govern themselves, share resources and support, and stay clean and sober—a major issue, since January's census found that about half of the homeless have problems with substance abuse.

"The underlying goal is to help one person at a time re-enfranchise through contributing positively to a community," says Brian Nord, a U-M grad student who's on the board of directors of MISSION (Michigan Itinerant Shelter System: Interdependent Out of Necessity), a nascent nonprofit working with Camp Take Notice. "No one has stepped up yet" to provide a legal site, Nord says, so they are regrouping in an undisclosed location and preparing for winter.

On an October Sunday, camp residents and volunteers hang a huge blue tarp between two pine trees to create a sheltered work and meeting space. Some cook meals on a camp stove and small charcoal grills. "We all take care of each other," says resident Ashanti Gonder. Gonder, who has lymphoma, moved to the camp two months ago after splitting up with her fiancé.

Danielle Mack, the camp's director, has a zero-degree-rated sleeping bag, an afghan, a purple shag carpet, and an air mattress in her tent. Mack also has rigged a rack to hang clothes—so she's ready for job interviews or classes. She hopes the camp will "fill in the gaps" for those whose lives don't fit the regimented approach at Delonis or other official shelters.

Nord says creating an official tent city is only an intermediate step—"we don't intend the camp as a permanent location for anyone." He's hopeful the shelters will come up with more beds for the winter, and he will urge residents to use them. But, he adds, "It may not take care of everyone. We're here for those people" and for those unable or unwilling to live in a shelter.

The tent city, like most shelters, is geared toward single adults. Yet families remain the majority of those in need. At Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County, about 600 families or individuals a month are coming in to pick up bags of groceries from its emergency food program—triple the number served monthly in 2007, says CSS president Larry Voight.

"Every kind of family configuration, including people who are working," is seeking help, Voight says. Some of the same people turn to the group's behavioral health and mental health units for counseling after being evicted. "That can be quite traumatic," he says. "The whole transition is incredibly painful and difficult." Voight sometimes notices people in cars outside the CSS office on Packard and wonders if they're sleeping there overnight.

Mark Nadon, who works odd jobs and

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THE COLDEST WINTER

volunteers at the Kiwanis sale on Saturday morning, says he worries most about homeless families. He says he's part of an informal program that matches families living in cars with willing gas station owners. The families buy gas, juice, and milk from the station, he says. They use the bathroom—and often clean it as part of the bargain. And they get a place to stay where they won't be run off or in danger.

Compared to living in a car, the Shelter Association's Delonis Center is a palace: it has fifty beds for men and women, a medical clinic, and programs to help residents find jobs and housing. But in October Delonis had a waiting list of about fifteen people. As an emergency measure, it opened its fifty-chair "warming shelter" earlier than usual this fall—when temperatures hit thirty-five degrees, instead of the twenty-degree mark used in years past. "It's too extreme to wait," says Schulmeister.

In mid-October, Chris McMahen had been staying in the warming shelter for a few weeks after "sleeping on the streets over in Royal Oak" for a while. The Delonis chair shelter had nearly three dozen people in it at the time, but McMahen thought the cushioned chairs and sofa-like sleeping surfaces were quite comfortable.

A rail-thin man with several teeth missing, McMahen says he used to live with his ex-wife and two daughters in Dearborn Heights, but about a year ago that didn't work any longer. Since then, he's spent time with friends in the Phoenix area, where he expects to return before long. "I'm homeless there too," he says.

Some homeless people admit they're drawn to the Ann Arbor area by the variety of services and free meals provided by the shelters and churches—McMahen says they're superior to those offered in Oakland County. According to Schulmeister, however, at least three quarters of the homeless helped by the Shelter Association used to live at Washtenaw County addresses or have family members here.

Ann Arbor's reputation for a stronger

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Mark Nadon has lived outside in his truck for nearly two years. He tries to help the newly homeless with advice and information.

economy also draws people seeking work, says Schulmeister. Lately, though, layoffs are plunging even longtime locals into homelessness and anxiety.

Natalie Mobley, a nurse practitioner, volunteers at the daily breakfast at St. Andrew's, checking blood pressure and offering basic medical assistance and advice to guests. "The job situation is so bad... people are more stressed" than they were a year ago, she says. Some cannot afford blood pressure or other medication; others don't know where to turn after their jobs at General Motors or Ford were eliminated.

"You lose income. You lose your livelihood. You lose stability," says one man who asked to be called Jeff. He lost his job about six months ago and has been living at Delonis for almost four months. Jeff grew up in Ann Arbor and has a son in college in California. He's found a job as a cook at a restaurant near the U-M and is working close to fifty hours a week, saving up money so he can get his own apartment again soon.

"I stay focused and move forward," he says. He calls being homeless a "humbling experience" but adds: "Just because I'm down, doesn't mean I'm out."

Unemployment can drive people into homelessness—and make it harder for them to get out. Alpha House executive director Julie Steiner says that two years ago parents staying at the family shelter on Jackson Road typically found a job and an apartment in fifty days. Now most of them stay the full ninety days allowed.

"People can't find jobs. So we're getting a logjam," Steiner says. "Now all those who lost their jobs are willing to take jobs that we try to get the homeless into." About thirty families a month are calling Alpha House for help, and typically eight of them have nowhere else to go. Yet the shelter has room for just six families, and only a couple of spaces open up each month. Steiner says the waiting list has seen "a significant increase" in the last year or so.

Steiner is among those working to find more housing for homeless families this winter. "We're trying not to leave any rock unturned" to locate places where more families can sleep, shower, eat, and stay warm—ideally, closer to downtown than Alpha House and on a bus line.

The hard part is finding the money at a time when government funding is shrinking. Alpha House counts on government sources for two thirds of its $600,000 annual budget. About half of the Shelter Association's $2 million annual budget comes from various units of government.

The Shelter Association served 1,506 people in the year ending in August. That was 46 percent more than the previous year—though Schulmeister feels some of the increase is due to better data gathering. Yet its revenues are down by about 10 percent from 2005, according to its annual filing with the IRS.

No turnaround is in sight. County funding will be cut 20 percent next year, and the state's contributions are likely to decline too, Schulmeister says. Corporate donations also are down. Generous individuals have stepped up and given more—"they helped us fill that [revenue] gap," Schulmeister says. Still, the organization had to dip into its cash reserves this year.

Alpha House's parent, the Interfaith Hospitality Network, also is relying more on individual contributors. "Our donors are so loyal and so willing to help," says Steiner, that when she needs extra pillows and blankets, she puts out a plea, and someone walks in with arms full of them within days. Last year's year-end fundraisers brought in as much as in flusher times, Steiner says, thanks to "slightly smaller gifts from more people."

And there is one new source of money in the equation: the federal economic stimulus. The county recently landed about $500,000 from the federal Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program. Unlike efforts aimed at helping people who already are homeless, HPRRP tries to keep renters from being evicted. The program is designed to help people who just need a "short-term influx of money to be okay," not the chronically homeless, Schulmeister explains. Individuals or families can receive up to three months in back rent—not mortgage payments—and up to $1,500 for utility bills.

"It will help us help people on hard times," she says, "and divert people from the shelters." ■

HOW TO HELP

- **The Shelter Association needs volunteers, cash, bedding, towels, and congregations willing to house the homeless. Email wha-info@ewashtenaw.org or call 222–3575.**
- **With its city funding cut, St. Andrew's breakfast program is requesting donations. Send checks to "The breakfast at St. Andrew's," 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.**
- **To donate to Interfaith Hospitality Network of Washtenaw County, which runs Alpha House, go to www.alphahouse-ihn.org and click on "Ways to Give."**
- **MISSION, a nonprofit working with Camp Take Notice, is requesting donations of cash, five-gallon water jugs, sleeping bags—and especially a site for its tent city. See www.tentcitymichigan.org for details.**

Other charities helping the homeless that depend on big year-end fund-raising drives include Food Gatherers, Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County, and the Salvation Army.

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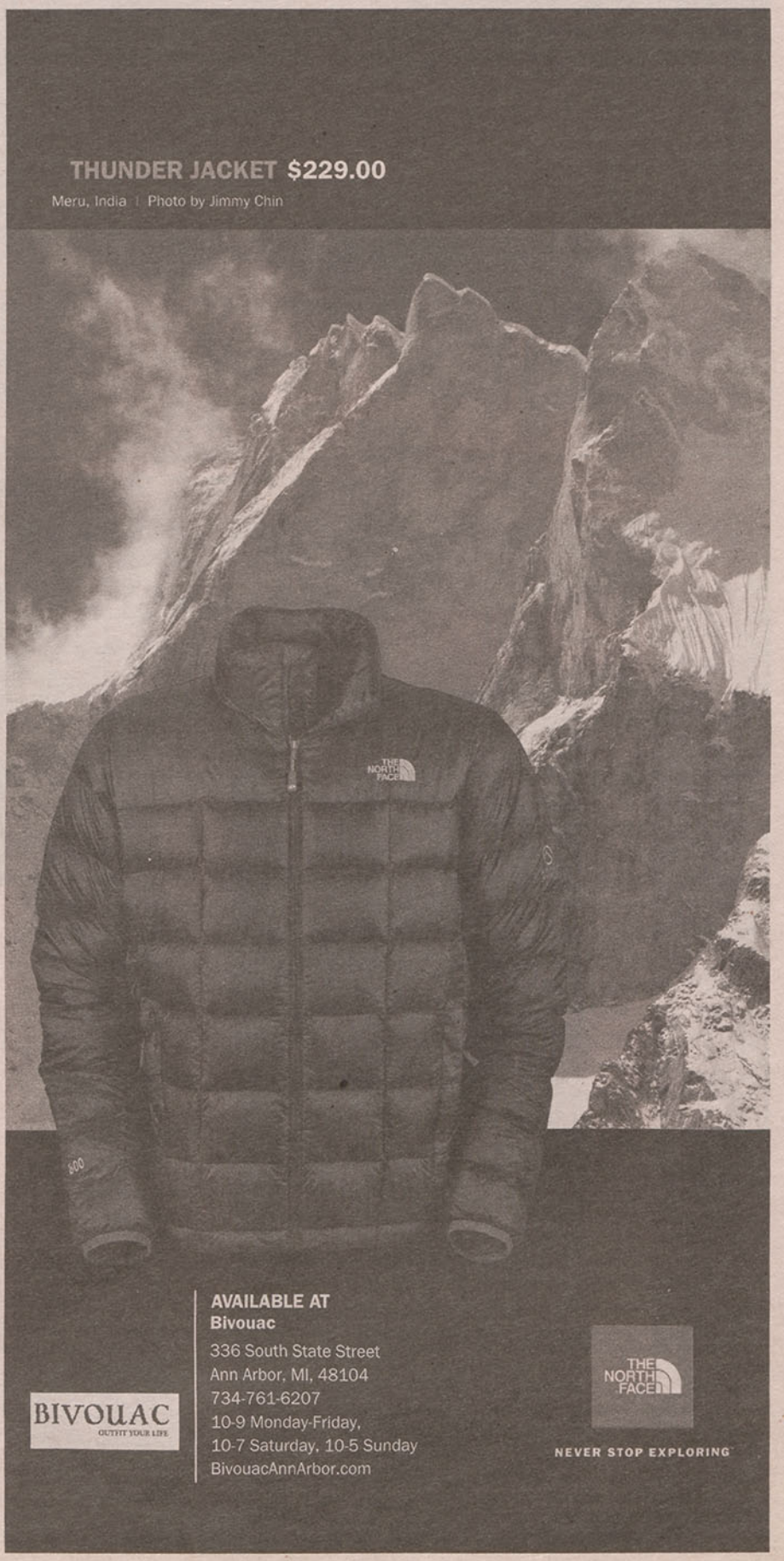

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THE CREATIVE LIFE AND SUDDEN DEATH OF THE RAW HÄUS

by JAMES LEONARD

A hard rain fell as city inspectors Tony Savoni and Milt Andrews arrived at 715 Miller on Thursday, August 20. A pair of cops came with them, because Savoni and Andrews weren't there just to inspect the battered Victorian house next to Miller Manor. If it wasn't up to code, they were there to evict the residents—and nobody knew how they'd take it.

"When we pulled up, twenty young people scattered out the back door, along with a number of dogs," Savoni says. "One police officer went to the front door and asked everybody to leave, while Milt and I went around to the back.

"We entered the house and walked through. The house was very messy and filled with debris. There was graffiti on the walls. The upstairs plumbing did not appear to work. There was bedding in the basement. There was bedding in the attic. There appeared to be people living in the garage. The house was only to be occupied by six people, and there were definitely more than six people living there.

"Based on all these violations," says Savoni, "we determined the house needed to be vacated and posted immediately." Both 715 Miller and the already vacant house next door at 713 were boarded up that afternoon. And Ann Arbor's punk music scene mourned.

For ten years, the two houses had been an ad hoc artists' collective. The ever-changing cast of characters included glassblowers, circus performers, and a road-kill taxidermist, but the baselines were youth and music. A couple of times a month, hardcore bands would thrash the night away in the living room of 715. Residents documented the shows with a meticulous entry on punkopedia.com, a printed zine, and a MySpace page with 583 friends.

This youthful creativity flourished with the blessing of the houses' elderly landlord, who never seemed to mind his tenants' zany escapades. The downside, tenants say, was that he didn't maintain the houses—and finally stopped paying the mortgage. The landlord says that's because the tenants didn't always pay their rent.

The crisis came this summer. In the end, the only question was who'd drop the hammer—the city inspectors or the bank.

"THE RAW HÄUS NEVER SLEPT"

On a sun-drenched September afternoon, Chuck Rock meets me outside the downtown Sweetwaters. Rock's black hair streaked with red, his fingernails painted black, and his body covered with tattoos attract a lot of looks from passersby. A few men frown, and more than a few women smile.

Rock, thirty-one, earns his living as the receiving manager at the People's Food Co-op. By night, though, he's a punk celebrity: as Preposterous the Clown, he performs scary stunts like lying on a bed of nails while a confederate sledgehammers a cinder block on his chest.

"I was the first resident of the RAW," Rock says proudly. When he arrived in 1999, he recalls, "the floor was as polished as a basketball court—you could see yourself in it—and [the house] had nice wooden finishes and engraved door hinges."

RAW stood for Rotten Apple Workshop, from Rotten Apple Records, an underground label. "When it started, the RAW Häus was basically a bunch of people doing arts and crafts," Rock explains. "We had metalsmiths, jewelry makers, three glassblowers, painters in every medium you can imagine, sculptors, circus performers, burlesque performers, and writers.

"We had bands and shows on the weekend. We had Ninja Matt doing yoga in West Park. We had home brewing and a lot of cooking with a lot of potlucks. It was very much a community center, and it was always awesome."

None of this would have been possible, Rock says, without the blessing of the landlord, Art Simsar. Simsar had connections to the art world—his ex-wife, Alice, had owned a prominent local gallery—and he looked the part. One time, Rock went over to his house on Forest to pay the rent and found him smoking a pipe and drinking absinthe.

"Art would appoint a mayor over the house—they lived in what we called the mayoral suite, the biggest bedroom in the house—and he or she was the most responsible party there and in charge of getting the rent to Art," Rock explains. "We did pretty much everything ourselves—repairs, up-

MIDDLE THREE INSET PHOTOS AT TOP FROM ROTTEN APPLE WORKSHOP MYSPACE PAGE; OTHER PHOTOS JEFF LAMB

punk paradise lost

keep, and whatnot—and whatever we did, we could deduct it from the rent, and Art would say, 'Thank you so much. You are a saint, a saint.'

"There was never a lease," Rock says as he rolls a cigarette, "and there was only one key, so the place was unlocked the whole time I lived there. But the RAW Häus never slept. Because some of the people who lived there worked in bars or restaurants, there was always someone who'd just got off work up in the living room having a beer and unwinding."

Rock cages a light and continues. "We always took care of each other. We used to have orphan Thanksgiving and Christmas for people without parents or who didn't get along with their parents. We'd get food from the Salvation Army and make big dinners and watch movies in the living room, just like a real family. Because we were a real family."

A real big family. "The lowest number of people staying there was maybe five or six," says Rock, but, with friends staying over and visitors passing through, "mid- to high teens would not be an unreasonable number. Once there were twenty people living in bunk beds in the garage and surviving on food stamps. One guy kept a running tally of the people who lived there, and I'm confident it got into triple digits."

"IT WAS PARADISE"

"The first time I went there was with my band, the Axis of Evil, in late 2001," says Jef Jenkins, now a manager at the Blind Pig. "We set up our show there at the last minute, and it was great: three bands, and the place was packed." Jenkins liked it so much he moved in.

Rachal Holmes, currently a Washtenaw County staff attorney, didn't live there, but she vividly remembers going to shows there. "It was definitely ill kept but funky—creatively decorated and a little run-down, but fun, a place where you could party without breaking anything nice."

The landlord didn't seem to mind. Jenkins says Simsar "could be very persistent when people didn't pay rent," but he never evicted anyone. "People wanted to go there and have fun no matter what," Jenkins recalls fondly, and "you were able to go there anytime, whether you were invited or not."

As Jenkins got older, though, the constant partying got to be too much. Three years ago, he moved out (Chuck Rock left around the same time). But Jenkins didn't go far—just next door, to the "WAR Häus" at 713 Miller. "It's called WAR because it's backwards to RAW," Jenkins explains. He still hung out at the RAW, but when things got too wild there, he'd retreat to the quieter house next door.

But for every resident who got older and moved on, there was a new kid drawn by the music and freedom.

My son, John Leonard, started hanging at RAW in 2005, when he was sixteen. In April 2008, he and his friend Joe Kupiec moved in. "It was filth and squalor," says John, "but there were older people living there then, and they kept things in line."

"It was paradise," says Joe, a nineteen-year-old with bushy sideburns and a ready smile. "All the cool people were there!"

But paradise would soon be lost. "All the people who were mentors left," says Joe. "They'd all been doing it since high school, and they were sick of seeing crusty kids moving in and messing things up. With all the kids my age who moved in, there was a gap between the two generations."

Time might have fixed the generation gap—everybody grows up eventually—but by then, time was running out.

A NO-TOLERANCE POLICY

Considering all that went on there, the residents of the RAW attracted surprisingly little attention from the Ann Arbor Police Department. From 2002 through 2007, the police were called to the house just eight times and wrote two noise tickets—pretty paltry considering the hundreds of punk shows held during those years. But in the house's last eighteen months, the cops came forty-two times and wrote sixteen tickets for noise, disorderly conduct, and sundry other misdemeanors.

There were never any drug or felony charges. "These guys aren't hardcore criminals," explains AAPD Sgt. Craig Flocken, who worked the midnight shift last summer. "They're just kids that haven't moved on into the real world yet."

The cops won't say—and redacted responses to FOIA requests don't reveal—who started calling them on a regular basis starting in the spring of 2008. But John and Joe believe the authorities targeted them. John says, "The cops have a no-tolerance policy towards the house."

Bob West, the assistant city attorney who's followed the property for years, says the residents brought the trouble on themselves. "Is 715 Miller a public nuisance?" he asks rhetorically. "For the people who live around it, it is….No matter who the tenants are, there's always noise violations. It's young white kids into bands. There's nothing wrong with that per se, but, when you live next door, it's a problem."

There were few complaints last winter, when people had their windows closed. But come spring, the AAPD was often getting called to the house once or twice a week. This year, Sgt. Flocken's first call to 715 Miller came just after midnight in late April.

"When I got there, a bunch of people were on the front porch, and when they saw us pull up, they scattered into the house so they didn't have to talk with me. But one person came out wearing clothes that appeared to be a dress—the people there dress in all sorts of ways—and he was very cooperative. As far as that goes, they're always very cooperative."

Flocken gave the residents a warning that night—but from that point on, he says, the midnight shift did in fact adopt a no-tolerance policy. When they got another complaint the following week, the responding officer wrote my son a $150 ticket. "We like to start the summer off with the houses getting tickets for parties, so they get the idea that this is not the most conducive way of doing business," explains Flocken. "We do it with fraternity houses and any other houses that disturb the peace consistently."

It was an expensive lesson, but not fatal. In the end, it wasn't the police who shut down the RAW Häus. The Ann Arbor building department, the bank, and his own freewheeling tenants finally caught up to Art Simsar.

JEFF LAMB

With the WAR Häus in the background, RAW Häus residents sort through their belongings after the August eviction. A hundred or more young people may have passed through the house in its ten-year existence.

"IT'S A LOST CAUSE"

Simsar was famous among the houses' residents for dodging city inspectors—Chuck Rock calls it "false fronting." But last November, an inspector got into the RAW and wrote a damning, two-and-a-half page report. The violations cited ranged from "over occupancy" to "residence appeared uninhabitable."

At that point, "a letter was mailed to the owner, who had sixty to ninety days to take care of the violations," inspector Savoni says. In late March, another inspector went out, "but nobody was there to let him in."

At that point, apparently, the house fell off the inspectors' radar screen. But the same month, CitiMortgage foreclosed.

Simsar had bought the properties in 1985 for $45,000. County records show that he refinanced them seven times in the last twelve years, each time for bigger amounts. By the time he stopped making payments late last year, he owed $170,000.

It wasn't all Simsar's fault. The RAW Häus rented for $1,700 a month—not bad split six ways, and even better split eight, ten, or even twenty ways. John and Joe say that when they lived there, the rent was paid in full every month. But next door at WAR, the $1,600 rent was split just four ways—and according to Jef Jenkins, "somebody would be always be hundreds if not thousands of dollars behind."

In March, the chickens came home to roost. "One day, there were notes taped to the front doors saying the house was being foreclosed," says Jenkins. Residents say Simsar came by the WAR Häus only once after that: "He said something like, 'It's a lost cause, best of luck to you,'" Jenkins remembers, "and we never saw him again."

Next door at the RAW, no one remembers even a perfunctory goodbye. "We got a notice on our door saying the property had been foreclosed," says Joe—and since they'd been paying their rent consistently, "it was a real kick in the pants."

By then, "the house had started to go to shit," John says. "The plumbing was almost entirely shot; the downstairs toilet hadn't flushed in months and was beginning to reek so strongly of piss that I had to keep the bathroom door shut at all times. Until then the house was still pretty well maintained, excluding the problems that that shystie little muppet Art should have fixed. However, once we knew we were getting evicted, we trashed the house. We hardly ever cleaned, we spray-painted the walls, one night we went after the wall with sledgehammers and steel chairs. Once we stopped caring was the beginning of the end of house."

John, Joe, and their housemates left the RAW in June. The residents at the WAR left shortly afterwards. "When they moved out [of RAW], it was a big incentive for us," says Jenkins. "When there were people there who paid rent who took care of things, I could talk to them. Now I had a cadre of squatters who didn't care all that much about anything."

The squatters who moved in after John and Joe left included their friend Austin Donnelly. Despite its dire physical condition, Donnelly says, the RAW was "the kind of place I like to live: a house where people trade skills and share food and learn to live as a small community with ideals

and stuff." He was one of ten people living there, none of whom paid rent—though Donnelly says they did spend some money to fix up the back stairs.

Even among the squatters, the communal spirit of the house lived on. But the stairs were the least of the RAW's building code violations. On August 18, both Sgt. Flocken and I independently called the city attorney's office with questions about the house. On August 19, assistant attorney Kristin Larcom looked at the property—and the next day, she had Tony Savoni and Milt Andrews out there to close the house down.

Afterward, Larcom went to Simsar's home on South Forest. Like the Miller houses, it was fronted by shrubs so overgrown they shaded the second-story windows.

"We spoke face to face," Larcom reports. "I'm guessing [he is] about eighty. He was well dressed and appeared to be in good health. He didn't seem aware of the condition of the property. It would be my assumption he hadn't been there in a while."

When I called Simsar about the eviction in August, he told me, "I don't want to talk about it." But when I called back in October, he was more forthcoming. Asked about the maintenance problems, he says the buildings were expensive to keep up and the tenants "were behind with the rent." As for the foreclosure, he says, "I couldn't make the payments. And that was that."

As Larcom guessed, he hasn't seen the place in a while—and he says "I'm not interested in seeing it now." But like the residents, he'll miss the RAW: "I loved it, too. It was beautiful."

Simsar "hasn't been charged with anything," Larcom points out. "From the city's standpoint, he has to pay the bill for the boarding up, and it costs a lot to get a contractor out, especially at short notice. But the rest of it—the inspectors, the police, everybody's time and energy—is your taxpayers' dollars at work. We all pay for it."

WHO KILLED THE RAW HÄUS?

"Who's responsible?" asks Chuck Rock. "That's a sticky wicket. You could blame Art for stopping taking care of the house. Or you could blame the kids for being late with the rent. In the end, it's really everybody's fault." Rock says with a sigh. "I'm just sad to see it go."

John and Joe are too. "I had some of the best times of my life at that house," John says, "and it is a shame that it's gone." But they have moved on—and, some might say, grown up.

With friends, they're now renting a house on North Main. "We're trying to keep the same spirit but without all of the problems of the RAW," John says. "We all learned a lot about living in a house, and we're trying not to fall into the same traps."

They've already avoided one. When John's band, FAS, wanted to play a show there, they got a noise permit from the city beforehand—and promised to shut the music down by 10 p.m.

Predictably, their new neighbors called to complain. But this time, when the cops showed up, they saw the permit, smiled, and wished them a good evening. ■

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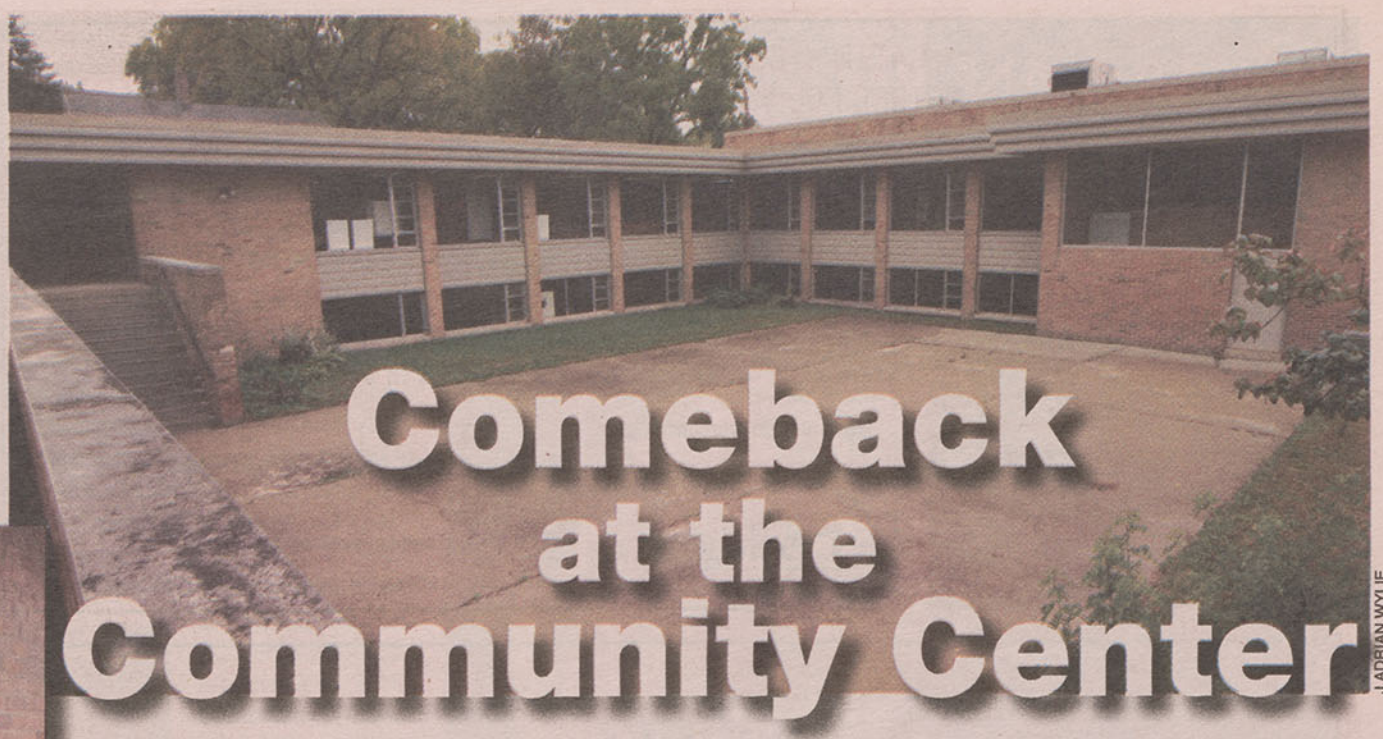
by Steven Moore



Comeback at the Community Center

J.ADRIAN WYLIE

An institution in Ann Arbor's black community, it was nearly destroyed by a former director's embezzlement. Now a dynamic new leader is reaching out to all the working poor.

When the Rev. Yolanda Whiten was appointed to head the Ann Arbor Community Center in May 2007, it was unclear if the historically black nonprofit would survive. A couple months after Whiten started, the center's previous executive director, Ann Hampton-Hawkins, pled guilty to embezzling nearly $94,000.

Some who know her allege that Hampton-Hawkins stole to feed a gambling addiction.

J.ADRIAN WYLIE

In just two and a half years, Yolanda Whiten and her board have engineered a remarkable turnaround.

Thomas Miree, who chaired the emergency board that took over after the fraud was discovered, believes she actually made off with double the amount she admitted to taking. Everyone agrees that she left the center nearly bankrupt.

As Hampton-Hawkins bled the agency of funds, she left bills unpaid and routine maintenance undone. She sold off part of the center's abandoned camp on Clear Lake, and its impressive headquarters on North Main became shabby and little used.

Yet, just two and a half years later, Whiten has engineered a remarkable turnaround. With the help of her board of directors, she's restored the center's reputation, stabilized it financially, and developed new programs. And she's begun to answer a question that haunted the center even before the scandal broke: how can an agency created to serve a segregated black community find its place in the twenty-first century?

Savonia Carson, Doug Williams, and Walter Hill devoted their lives to building what Ann Hampton-Hawkins nearly destroyed.

The Ann Arbor Community Center descends from the Colored Welfare League, a self-help organization created by the Rev. Ralph Gilbert and a group of Ann Arbor black leaders in 1918. In the mid-1920s, the CWL's youth clubs spun off into a new organization—the Dunbar Center— focused specifically on providing services for young people.

Initially headquartered in a board member's house on Catherine Street, it was headed from 1926 to 1936 by Savonia Carson. When she resigned, Douglas E. H. Williams, a pharmacist turned social worker from Atlanta, succeeded her.

The choice of a licensed social worker was calculated to attract funding from the city's Community Fund, a forerunner of the United Way. Soon after he arrived, Williams led the center's purchase of a new headquarters at 420 North Fourth Avenue. The brick house at the corner of Kingsley (now Legal Services of South Central Michigan) became a clubhouse and youth services center for the entire black community.

Williams tripled the Dunbar Center's membership while working quietly to improve race relations in the city. Older residents recall him as a skillful diplomat who successfully maneuvered through the maze of local politics to work on behalf of the city's black residents without increasing racial tensions.

On his morning walks to work, Williams would drop by the offices of city leaders, passing out bright red apples. The friendly gesture was part of a larger strategy to maintain access without calling attention to any particular agenda. Under his leadership, the Dunbar Center became the first black organization to join the Community Fund as a member agency. And Williams won powerful allies in the city's white establishment.

In the late 1950s, liberal philanthropist Margaret Dow Towsley donated generously to the fund-raising campaign to build the present center on Main Street. She recruited her architect brother, Alden Dow—christened by Frank Lloyd Wright as his "spiritual son"—to design the building.

The new center was completed in April 1959. Tragically, just six months later, Doug Williams suffered a fatal heart attack at his desk. The following year, the center's board of directors appointed Walter Hill to succeed him. Like Williams, Hill was a trained social worker—at Morehouse College in Atlanta, his classmates had included Martin Luther King, Jr.—and, like his predecessor, he proved an unassuming but effective leader.

The Colored Welfare League had long since shut down, and the Dunbar Center had extended its services to include adults as well as young people. To reflect its expanded scope, in 1962 it was renamed the Ann Arbor Community Center.

A resourceful fund-raiser and capable administrator, Hill grew the renamed center into one of the city's most important social service agencies. His initiatives included purchasing a former YMCA camp on Clear Lake in Waterloo Township as a home for the center's long-standing summer youth camp, creating a teen drop-in center, and opening a day care center for low- and moderate-income families. By the time Hill retired in 1991, the center was the city's third largest recipient of United Way funding, receiving about $250,000 a year.

To succeed him, the board turned to yet another southern-born social worker, Ann Hampton-Hawkins. Born in Monroe, Louisiana, Hampton-Hawkins graduated from Grambling State University and moved to Ann Arbor to earn a master's degree in social work at the U-M.

At the community center, she projected a carefully crafted image. Jerene Calhoun, who worked with Hampton-Hawkins on an anti-drug program in the late 1990s, remembers her as "very professional" and "a good person to work for."

Sandy Rupp got a similarly positive impression. When she arrived in town to head the local United Way five years ago, Rupp remembers, Hampton-Hawkins struck her as an "absolutely elegant and eloquent woman." In hindsight, Rupp realizes that by then the thefts must already have been underway. Yet, "if you had seen her, you'd have thought nothing was happening."

Those who knew the center well realized that something was wrong. Ann Arbor native and former center staffer Steve Dixon remembers the agency struggling to meet its financial obligations and obvious signs of deterioration in the building. "It just wasn't the same place, not like it was when we were kids," he says.

But Dixon, who considered Hampton-Hawkins a friend, never suspected she was responsible. On the contrary, he sympathized with her apparent struggle to keep

Even now, people who worked with former director Ann Hampton-Hawkins are reluctant to talk about where she went wrong. But while asking not to be named, three sources say they believe she lost the money gambling in casinos. If so, it was an addiction that destroyed her career and very nearly destroyed the Ann Arbor Community Center.

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Comeback at the Community Center

the center going. "I just thought she was stressed," he recalls. "I told her she just ought to retire and get out of the rat race."

As the nonprofit's financial picture grew increasingly grim, Dixon says, small groups of residents started gathering at the center to discuss what could be done. "Ann was at those meetings," he recalls, "but I don't think she said very much. She had to know what was happening, though."

It was the United Way that finally forced the issue. As the center's programs dropped away—Hampton-Hawkins closed both the camp on Clear Lake and the day care center—the agency's funding shrank. By 2005, it was down to $75,000. In 2006, it was withheld altogether, Rupp says, "because necessary documents, such as the 990 [annual report] and audit, were not provided."

The fund suspension led to an audit and then to a criminal investigation. It revealed that Hampton-Hawkins had set up a second bank account in the center's name, then used what appeared to be routine fund transfers to siphon money from the agency for personal use.

For awhile, she was able to avoid detection by occasionally replacing some of the embezzled funds from the decoy account. But the scheme began to fall apart as her marriage started to crumble, eventually ending in a divorce. As her financial situation worsened, she reportedly moved in with her adult son in Ypsilanti. (Neither Hampton-Hawkins nor her son would comment.)

"It made me sick to my stomach when I first heard what had happened," Dixon recalls. "I couldn't believe that she would get caught up in something like that. She must have needed money bad. Why else would she steal?"

Even now, people who worked with Hampton-Hawkins are reluctant to talk about where she went wrong. But while asking not to be named, three sources say they believe she lost the money gambling in casinos. If so, it was an addiction that destroyed her career and very nearly destroyed the Ann Arbor Community Center.

In August 2007, Hampton-Hawkins pled guilty to a single count of embezzlement. In October, she was sentenced to probation, conditional on repaying the center nearly $94,000. No one knows how—some speculate she borrowed from family members—but she made the restitution and avoided jail time. After briefly moving back to Louisiana, she's reportedly again living in the area.

After the scandal broke and funding disappeared, the remaining staff resigned. By early 2007, only a custodian and a bookkeeper were left. Led by former Ford exec Thomas

J.ADRIAN WYLIE

J.ADRIAN WYLIE

STEVEN MOORE

Hiring Whiten, an ordained minister, symbolized the new board's commitment to resetting the center's moral compass. Her energy and enthusiasm have been critical to reviving the respected but moribund nonprofit.

Miree, the new board of directors assessed the damage and created overdue financial safeguards. And they tapped a deep reservoir of goodwill for the center. Among those who came forward to help, in March 2007, was Yolanda Whiten. Just two months later, the board asked her to take over as interim executive director.

The hiring of Whiten, an ordained minister, symbolized the board's commitment to resetting the center's moral compass. But her other qualities were at least as valuable. Even before the scandal, Hampton-Hawkins tended to be remote and formal. Whiten, in contrast, is chatty and energetic, always eager to evangelize for the center's work.

One of her first problems was fending off Waterloo Township. Hampton-Hawkins had moved the center's summer camp back to Main Street and sold part of the property on Clear Lake. "They [the township] said, if you're not using it, we're gonna tax it," Whiten recalls.

Instead, "we went out and cleaned it up." Volunteers from the city's field operations division cleared trees from the overgrown property, and members have maintained it ever since. "Now we go out there every year," says Whiten. "We grill burgers and meet the neighbors." She hopes to restore the camp's lodge as a retreat center for local groups.

Whiten's temporary appointment soon became permanent, and she moved on to other problems. Installing fiscal controls was straightforward; winning back donors' trust took longer. The agency launched a membership drive and organized a spring fund-raising gala, which this year generated more than $25,000. And it's been reaching out to the business community, attracting donations from companies as large as TCF Bank and as small as the Community Auto Wash.

Whiten also initiated an active program in grant writing, which is beginning to reap dividends in new program development. With funding from the United States Office of Women's Health Services, the center now sponsors weekly discussions for local women about managing chronic illnesses prevalent in minority communities, including diabetes, hypertension, cancer, and stress. Working with Bethel AME Church, Whiten is spearheading a program aimed at curbing domestic violence, making the Ann Arbor Community Center one of three national sites participating in the federally funded Women of Faith and Intimate Partner Violence initiative.

To generate additional revenue, Whiten also rents out the community center's meeting space to groups ranging from the Lucille Porter Community Leaning Post to the Ann Arbor Democratic Party. She was thrilled recently when a Hindu family held a soul-releasing ceremony there for a deceased family member. "I'm really pushing diversity," she says. "The center was always very diverse—it was the Dow and Towsley families that built this building—but somewhere that got lost."

"The days of serving just African Americans are over," agrees current board chair Marvin Perry, an Ann Arbor native and U-M MBA. "Our outreach programs have to reach everybody, regardless of race." Both Perry and Whiten say the center's focus now is on the economic needs of families of all backgrounds. "We deal with the working poor," says Whiten. The agency helped about 1,200 families last year with everything from distributing food and clothing to legal aid to notices of eviction.

"It has been an amazing journey to watch the agency recover and transform itself," emails Sandy Rupp. With the center "once again proving its value to the community," Rupp says, United Way resumed its funding last year, though at a much lower level—just $12,000. This year, it rose to $17,000—just as Michigan was hit with the worst recession since the Great Depression.

Whiten predicts that the needs of working families will only increase in the months ahead—and she hopes they'll continue to turn to the Ann Arbor Community Center for help. Whatever their background, she stresses, "I really want people to know it's everybody's center." ■

Do you know...Tom Monaghan?

Jim Leonard, a writer for the Ann Arbor Observer, is writing a biography of **Tom Monaghan,** founder of *Domino's Pizza* and *Ave Maria,* for the University of Michigan Press, and he wants to hear from YOU if you have any good Tom Monaghan stories - happy stories, sad stories most of all personal stories.

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Baby, it's cold outside. And at a time of year when the weather no longer warms us from the outside in, it's only natural to seek to warm ourselves from the inside out. That's why, after the harvest, we fire up our ovens, gravitate toward rib-sticking, savory cuisine, and take comfort from the aroma and the steam rising from the pots simmering on the stove. In short, we turn to food.

The new **Asian Fuzion Café** on Washtenaw offers multicultural comfort food, with a menu that embraces not only Thai and Chinese specialties but all-American breakfasts, including Belgian waffles, omelets, and hearty skillet dishes combining eggs, potatoes, and sausage or ham (as well as vegetarian-friendly dishes like tofu omelets). The basic Chinese classics are offered here—General Tso's chicken, kung pao variations, hot and sour soup—as well as remarkably affordable Thai specialties like pad Thai and drunken noodles, all for less than $10. There's even a New Orleans–inspired section of the menu with gumbo, jambalaya, and étouffée, and plans are in the works to add Japanese teriyaki and noodle dishes. The owners, who used to own the well-regarded Jasmine Thai & China Bistro in Saline, designed their new place as a family restaurant, complete with a kids' menu.

It's difficult to find more gut-warming food than Thai cuisine, thanks to the tiny red Thai chili pepper that spikes some of the authentic dishes at **Tuptim Thai Cuisine**, also on Washtenaw. Voted Ann Arbor's best Thai restaurant for the last six years, Tuptim's kitchen uses premium fresh ingredients to create its classic Thai dishes along with unique offerings you won't find anywhere else, like ginger soy sea bass, garlic basic scallops, and mango sweet rice. Although Thai food has an incendiary reputation, the dishes spring from a blend of exotic seasonings that are easily tailored to individual heat tolerance. The owners are happy to help you find the level of spiciness that works for you.

Local hotheads know **Tios Mexican restaurant**, newly relocated to Liberty, is the place to go for Tex-Mex comfort food like enormous burritos, quesadillas, tacos, and enchiladas, not to mention a hot sauce selection that is justifiably famous. Choose from dozens of hot sauces with intriguing names like Da' Bomb and Dave's Insanity. Wash it all down with a shot from the tequila bar for a tingle that'll warm you all the way to your toes—or cool off an overheated palate with one of owner Tim Seaver's luscious homemade milkshakes.

Jamaica knows how to do spicy, mon. A true taste of the Caribbean can be found at **Jamaican Jerk Pit**, now under new management on Thayer. The island staff is expert at putting together authentic cuisine using hard-to-find imported specialty goods and fresh ingredients. Note: it doesn't have to be blow-the-top-of-your-head-off spicy unless that's the way you want it. Just ask, and your jerk chicken, pork, and other sun-kissed dishes can be customized to the level of heat you can handle.

Eating all that spicy food is thirsty work. It's easy to remember to stay well hydrated in the summer, but it's equally important in the winter, when furnaces dry out the air—and our bodies. **Kangen Water** uses a Japanese technology to turn whatever comes out of your tap into healthy, high-alkaline, high-antioxidant water. Too much acidity in the body increases cellular inflammation and disrupts immune system function. And since the body is 72 percent water, reducing the acidity of the water in your house—and therefore in your body—is one of the best ways to stay healthy. The company's website at www.waterimproveslife.com offers a fascinating and detailed description

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When it comes to spicing up your dinner, if you're more of a do-it-yourselfer, **Ann Arbor Spice Merchants** in Kerrytown is a fragrant shop packed with a huge variety of spices, seasonings, and special blends. You can buy single spices by the ounce or buy one of the store's special blends, including chili seasoning combinations and spice rubs. Spice Merchants also sells other ways to stay warm, including many different teas, coffee, hot chocolate blends, prepackaged soup and rice mixes, and seasoned skewers for those of you lucky enough to have grills on your stovetops—or hardy enough to grill outside year round.

Spice cabinet stocked but you haven't the faintest idea what to do with any of it? Learn from some of the area's most creative cooks at Kerrytown kitchen store **Hollander's Upstairs,** where classes are led by local luminaries like singer–songwriter restaurant owner and Top Chef contender Eve Aronoff, former Ann Arbor News columnist Marge Biancke, Pacific Rim chef Isaiah Campbell, Ann Arbor Spice Merchants' own Nanci Jenkins, onetime Kitchen Port favorite and Indian cuisine expert Lakshmi Narayanan, and brothers Max and Eli Sussman, authors of *Freshman in the Kitchen: From Clueless Cook to Creative Chef.*

Another excellent resource for beginners and experienced chefs alike is **Ann Arbor Cooks,** on Jackson Road, which hosts monthly "Chef's Table" dinner events and specializes in hands-on cooking as well as demonstration classes. The owner's self-stated mission: to cook thoughtful and seasonally inspired food, to provide a technical foundation on which to build kitchen confidence, and most of all, to put fun back in the kitchen. Classes include culinary "boot camps," building knife skills, and workshops focusing on world cuisine, plus classes designed to get you ready for the holidays. Ann Arbor Cooks offers gift certificates—a great way to share the fun and spread holiday cheer at the same time!

The approaching holiday season offers ample opportunity for get-togethers. If you have neither the time nor the inclination to roll up your sleeves and command the stove yourself, check out Afternoon Delight's catering services. **Afternoon Delight** is a longtime Ann Arbor favorite for breakfasts (including amazing oversized muffins), healthy sprout-stuffed sandwiches, luscious salads, quiches, and delicious soups, and the staff can work with you to put it all together for a party or special event of any size, at home or at work, all for a very reasonable price.

For many of us, bakeries offer the ultimate in cold-weather comfort. **Big City Small World Bakery,** housed in a distinctive ochre building on Miller Avenue at Spring Street, brews a great cup of coffee and bakes up sumptuous, all-natural cookies, cupcakes, scones, breads, cakes, and specialty pastries, as well as excellent homemade pizzas, quiches, and soups. Big City is an especially wonderful resource for vegans, because the shop offers vegan versions of several of its specialties, including gourmet "ding dongs" and fabulous birthday and specialty cakes. All cakes, vegan and traditional, are available for pickup or delivery.

So, as the last of the leaves fall and the temperature continues to drop, we each search for cozy comfort in whatever form we can find it—and there's no better place to find it than in the kitchen. Find it in the clang and clatter of pots and pans, the cheery whistle of the teakettle, or the mouthwatering fragrance wafting from a freshly plated entrée. Keeping warm—at this time of year, it's an inside job.

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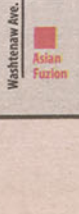

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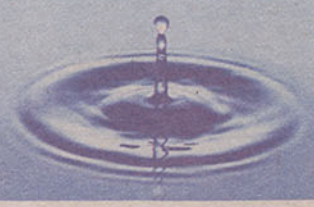

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November Events

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- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 SUNDAY

★"A2Sunday Runners": Two Dogs Running. *Every Sun.* All invited to join informal runs of 5–7 miles along various scenic routes. *8:30 a.m., meet at Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, Kerrytown. Free. 657–0214.*

★Sunday Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Sun.* Today: **"Gee Farms Ride,"** a fast-paced 95-mile ride to Gee Farms in Pinckney for cider, doughnuts, fresh fruit, ice cream, and other goodies. Also this month: **"Hills of Ann Arbor Ride"** (Nov. 8), fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced rides, 22–44 miles, over some of the city's toughest hills. Each route is made up of 3 to 5 loops, so you can easily drop out if you get worn out. **"Dundee Breakfast Ride"** (Nov. 15), a fast/moderate-paced 60-mile ride to Dundee for breakfast. **"Late Fall Manchester Breakfast Ride"** (Nov. 22), a fast/moderate-paced 60-mile ride to the Knights of Columbus Hall in Manchester for an all-you-can eat breakfast provided by the Boy Scouts. **"Last Sunday Brunch Ride of 2009"** (Nov. 29), 22-, 29-, 40-, 60-, and 70-mile rides (996–4985), at various speeds, to the Lighthouse Cafe in Dexter for breakfast. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431 unless otherwise noted.*

Cyclo-Cross Bicycle Race: Two Wheel Tango. *Oct. 31 & Nov. 1.* Races of 1½–2 miles through Vets Park. Classes include beginner men and women, expert men and single-speed racers, juniors, master's men, and elite men and women. Awards to top 3 in each class and prizes for the top 3 elite men & women. Spectators can see the whole course—riders "falling in the mud and all that fun stuff," says an organizer. Barbecue and Jolly Pumpkin ales available. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 2150 Jackson Rd. $30 (elite riders, $35) entry fee. Free to spectators. 528–3030.*

★AAPEX 2009: Annual Ann Arbor Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse. *Oct. 31 & Nov. 1.* This show usually draws about 600 local stamp collectors and noncollectors lured by the beauty and history of numerous exhibits of postage stamps from around the world. Also, a sale of stamps. *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Oct. 31) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Nov. 1), Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 Huron River Dr. Free admission. 761–5859.*

★Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate. *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *10:30 a.m., Mitchell Field, south side of Fuller Rd. just west of Bonisteel. Free. 846–9418.*

★First Singles: First Presbyterian Church. *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: First Singles member Don Deatrick plays a CD on **"Mozart's Music and Life."** Also this month: First Presbyterian minister-in-residence Matthew Nickel discusses **"Faith and Imagination"** (Nov. 8), a **potluck and planning meeting** (Nov. 15), First Singles members Laura Berg, Cereita Little, and Carol Lee Charles discuss **"Women in the Bible"** (Nov. 22), and First Singles member Robert Klingle discusses a couple of classical music pieces and plays a recorded **Detroit Symphony Orchestra** performance of them (Nov. 29). *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★Author's Day: Barnes & Noble. Several local and national writers are on hand during the course of the day for Q&As with their fans and prospective readers. Signing. *11 a.m.–7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"Gypsy Pond Music": Digital Music Ensemble (U-M School of Music). *Oct. 28–Nov. 1.* Stephen Rush oversees his "interactive floating labyrinth" that amplifies, combines, and manipulates natural sounds in and around the pond. A remote-control toy boat traverses a 40-foot-square wooden maze that floats in the pond, triggering sounds, lights, and video loops. Rush says "the music is techno-ambient in nature—it sure ain't Gramma's Mahler!" Reimagined by Rush's students every year, the piece explores labyrinth myths. At night, the work is lit with floating candles. *Noon–9 p.m., School of Music pond. Free. 764–0594.*

★"Exploring Quakerism": Ann Arbor Friends Meeting. *Nov. 1 & 8.* Three Society of Friends members discuss **"Experiencing Quaker Simplicity"** (Nov. 1) and **"Experiencing Quaker Peace"** (Nov. 8). Followed by Q&A and a 15-minute worship service. Lunch. *12:30–2 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. 761–7435.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sun.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it at the turn of the 19th century. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Free; donations accepted. 994–4898.*

★Storytime: Liberty Borders. *Every Sun.* A Borders staffer reads stories for kids. *1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun.–Fri., except Nov. 26.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), vintage (Mon.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards Sun.–Thurs. *1 p.m. (Sun.) & 6 p.m. (Mon.–Fri.), Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. $5 (Tues., free; Fri., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★Ann Arbor Go Club. *Every Sun. & Thurs. except Nov. 26.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *1–6 p.m. (Sun.) & 7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417–5547.*

★Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to help city natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Wear pants and closed-toe shoes. Followed by short nature walks. Today: help remove invasive woody plants from the **Huron Parkway Nature Area.** *1–4 p.m., meet at the park steward's house, 3470 Woodland Rd. off E. Huron River Dr. Free. 996–3266.*

★"Body Music Mini-Festival": U-M Arts on Earth. Body music performances by **Keith Terry** (see 6 Friday listing), Cudamani (Bali) dance troupe artistic director **Dewa Ketut Alit Adnyana,** local classical Indian dancer **Sreyashi Dey,** San Francisco multi-instrumentalist **Bryan Dyer,** U-M percussion professor **Joseph Gramley,** Southern rhythm vocalist **David Pleasant,** and others. Followed by workshops (2–3:30 p.m.) and an **open mike** (3:30–5 p.m.). *1 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free. 615–8738.*

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (1:30 & 3:30 p.m., plus 11:30 a.m. Sat. and Nov. 27 only) explores the current night sky. ***Stars of the Pharoahs*** (12:30 p.m. Sat. only) explores the use of science in ancient Egypt to tell time, make a workable calendar, and align huge buildings. ***Two Small Pieces of Glass: The Amazing Telescope***

MYRA KLARMAN

Pioneer Theatre Guild presents the landmark Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *Oklahoma* Nov. 7, 8, & 13-15 at Pioneer High School.

FILMS

55 **Film Screenings** — *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

43 **Exhibit Openings** — *Katie Whitney*
UMMA "Lens of Impressionism" — *Sally Wright Day*

EVENTS REVIEWS

39 **Dreamland Theater Puppet Show** — *Charmie Gholson*
Avant garde in Ypsi

40 **Playing for Change Band** — *James M. Manheim*
From the virtual to the real

49 ***Escanaba*** — *Sally Mitani*
The Origin of the Esca-pades

53 **Cody Walker** — *Keith Taylor*
New poet in town

59 **Berliner Philharmoniker** — *James Leonard*
The best orchestra in the world

61 **Tobias Delius and Georg Graewe** — *Piotr Michalowski*
Old friends in a new duo setting

67 **Bolcom & Morris, Bolkosky & Cooker** — *Sandor Slomovits*
Classical meets cabaret

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

70 **Nightspots Schedule** — *John Hinchey*
Bluegrass Night at the Circus — *James M. Manheim*

November 2009 Event Highlights
Ann Arbor District Library

All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Monday **2**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
John Neville-Andrews discusses his upcoming UM production of Wendy Wasserstein's ***Uncommon Women and Others***

Wednesday **4**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Hands-On Session: Find Funding for A College Education with **Karen Downing**, UM Foundation and Grants Librarian
GRADE 9 - ADULT • REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 327-4555 OR AADL.ORG
ALSO OFFERED: Thurs., Nov. **5**, 7:00 - 8:30 pm • PITTSFIELD BRANCH

Thursday **5**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
The Development of Multicultural Children's Literature with EMU Professor **Sheila Most**

Sunday **8**
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Film & Discussion: ***Long Wait for Home*** (NOT RATED)
Acclaimed documentary on international adoption with discussion led by the director, **Changfu Chang, PhD**

Sunday **8**
3:00 - 5:00 pm
Mrs. Charles Darwin's Recipe Book: Revived and Illustrated discussed by author **Weslie Janeway** • PITTSFIELD BRANCH

Tuesday **10**
7:00 - 8:00 pm
Nationally-known music/culture critic **Jessica Hopper** discusses her book ***The Girls' Guide to Rocking: How to Start a Band, Book Gigs, and Get Rolling to Rock Stardom*** • GRADE 6 - ADULT
TRAVERWOOD BRANCH

Tuesday **10**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
The Perils, Pitfalls, Perks and Pleasures of Online Dating with Internet dating expert **Cheryl Blackwell** • PITTSFIELD BRANCH

Thursday **12**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Washtenaw County Jail: Critical Issues • A community discussion held in conjunction with the **League of Women Voters**

Saturday **14**
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Panel Discussion • Representing Native Americans: A Native American Heritage Month Event • DT 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Monday **16**
7:00 - 8:00 pm
The Fine Art of Songwriting with **Dick Siegel** • This discussion of writing lyrics for your music includes Dick's musical examples

Tuesday **17**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Bright Nights™ Community Forum: Depression and Anxiety in Youth and Adolescents moderated by **Kate Fitzgerald, MD**

Wednesday **18**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Nobel Prize winner **Dr. Henry Pollack** discusses his new book ***A World Without Ice***

Thursday **19**
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Film & Discussion • ***Fremont, USA: A City's Encounter with Religious Diversity*** (NOT RATED) • Director **Ellie Pierce** of the Harvard Pluralism Project leads the discussion • GRADE 9 - ADULT

Friday **20**
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Gimme A Shelter Documentary Filmmaking Workshop for Teens with filmmaker **Tom McPhee**, director of ***An American Opera: The Greatest Pet Rescue Ever!*** • GRADES 6-12

Sunday **22**
1:00 - 2:00 pm
Grammy Award-winning Musician Bill Harley at The Ark
GRADES K-5 WITH ADULT • THE ARK, 316 S. MAIN ST., ANN ARBOR

Sunday **22**
4:30 - 5:30 pm
Backstage At Performance Network • GRADE 6 - ADULT
PERFORMANCE NETWORK, 120 E. HURON, ANN ARBOR

Tuesday **24**
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Helen Thomas at the Michigan Theater • The White House Press Corps star will discuss her new book ***Listen Up, Mr. President: Everything You Wanted Your President To Know And Do*** • MICHIGAN THEATER, 603 E. LIBERTY, ANN ARBOR

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

(2:30 p.m. Sat., Sun., & Nov. 27) explores how telescopes work and what they can do. *1:30 & 2:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $4.75. 764–0478.*

★U-M Men's Soccer vs. Northwestern. *2 p.m., U-M Soccer Field, 2250 S. State. Free. 763–2159.*

★"Pre-Season Potluck & Hike": Washtenaw Ski Touring Club. A trail expert TBA leads a hike. Followed at 4 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to share and your own utensils). BYOB. *2 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 662–SKIS.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *Nov. 1 & 15.* Today: **"Spiders and Their Kin."** EMU biology professor Cara Shillington displays live spiders, scorpions, and other fascinating invertebrates. She also talks about poisonous spiders in Michigan, where they hang out, and how to avoid them. Also this month: **"Creatures of the Night"** (Nov. 15). Howell Nature Center staff display several live nocturnal birds and discuss their habits and adaptations to the dark. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5). $6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.*

★"Hike Along the River Raisin": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner. *2–4 p.m., Leonard Preserve, meet at the dead end of Union St. north off Main west of M-52, Manchester. Free. 971–6337.*

Forest Hill Cemetery Tour. *Every Sun., Oct. 4–Nov. 8.* Ann Arbor's unofficial city historian, **Wystan Stevens,** who is about to move out of town, has been leading his popular interpretive tour of Ann Arbor's oldest cemetery for almost 30 years. Stevens is an enchanting, wryly humorous raconteur, and he says that "the fall is the prettiest time of year for the graveyard." If you haven't been led around Forest Hill by Wystan, you don't really know Ann Arbor! Canceled in case of heavy rain. *2–5 p.m.. meet inside the gate on Observatory, just north of Geddes. $10 (children with adult, free) by advance reservation and at the gate. 662–5438.*

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★"Five Wishes: Taking Care of Tomorrow Today": Ann Arbor District Library. Arbor Hospice community outreach coordinator Marie Pierce discusses writing an advance health care directive. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★"Kerry Tales: The Wise Old Owl and Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 407 N. Fifth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★"Octubafest": U-M School of Music. *Oct. 28 & 30 and Nov. 1.* Todd Fiegel conducts the U-M Euphonium and Tuba Ensemble in a program of ensemble works set to screenings of scenes from movies and cartoons, including *Fantasia, Torn Curtain, Psycho,* a Road Runner cartoon, and others. *2 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★"Day of the Dead Performance": Ann Arbor District Library. The renowned **Moyocoyani Izel Mexican Folkloric Dance Troupe** showcases dances traditionally performed on this Mexican holiday. *2–2:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun. (except Nov. 26) Sept. 17–Dec. 19. See review, p. 49.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Jeff Daniels' comedy, the third in his deer-hunting Yooper trilogy that includes the hugely successful *Escanaba in da Moonlight* and *Escanaba in Love*. This installment reveals the origins of some of the Soady family's time-honored deer camp traditions. Stars Julian Gant, Wayne David Parker, and Tom Whalen. *2 p.m., Purple Rose, 137 Park St., Chelsea. $25 (Sun. eves., Wed. & Thurs.), $33 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & $38 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433–7673.*

"Happiness! Songs from Broadway": Concordia University. *Oct. 29–Nov. 1.* Concordia University guest theater artist Robert Bethune directs student singers in a performance of uplifting Broadway show tunes. *2:30 p.m., Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes. $10 (tonight: 2 for the price of one). 995–4612.*

★"Healing Depression the Mind-Body Way: Creating Happiness with Meditation, Yoga, and Ayurveda": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Local Ayurvedic medicine practitioner Sandra Moss discusses her new book. Signing. *3 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★Halloween Concert: Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer en-

kids shows

Dreamland Theater Puppet Show

Avant garde in Ypsi

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

It's the day before Halloween, and two sweet little puppet children are lost in a haunted forest. They make their way out, however, and enter a place marked by a huge sign that says "Ypsilanti City" over a rainbow. The children are hungry—oh so hungry. But all they have is an empty soup pot—and a rock that the boy found in the forest. One by one, the boy and girl meet a variety of monsters, demons, and ghosts who seem scary at first, though the most heinous thing they do is refuse to share food with the children.

"We haven't eaten for thirty days!" the children cry. But the ghost won't share the onion rings he's got in his secret pocket. While the boy looks for wild greens growing in Riverside Park, the little girl learns a secret recipe for stone candy soup from a crazy cow-beast with horns, three eyes, and a Tootsie Roll nose.

This is the point where the two real little girls in the seats in front of me start whispering to each other, comparing notes about the artistry of the puppets. I'd say they're about eight or nine and very self-confident. Very comfortable.

We're all comfortable in our ornate, mismatched retro theater chairs surrounded by art installations and the rich scent of theater. It reminds me of the Performance Network, back when the pole stood between the audience and performers.

Dreamland Theater is on Washington Street in downtown Ypsilanti, where the rent is lower than Ann Arbor and the avant-garde creative types are more comfortable. The space also hosts live bands and adult puppet shows in addition to the Sunday children's performances. Yes, this place truly looks and feels like the old Network and its all-inclusive, organic, hippie, live-in culture.

The owner of Dreamland Theater, Naia Venturi, has a U-M physics degree but has decided her passion is working here, creating sock puppets, stick puppets, and marionettes. While the puppets in today's show are sock and stick puppets, numerous marionettes hang from the walls and ceiling. They're chunky clay and clothed babies, dinosaurs, birds, and fantastical, one-of-a-kind creations.

The lost "children" on stage love Ypsilanti too. They're relieved by how "nice" the city is. And in fact, at the end of the show, a blob monster that had previously refused to share food with them orders a pizza, telling the person on the other end of his monster cell phone, "No, I'm not interested in the jalapeño poppers," before giving the address—26 North Washington.

There are two Sunday children's puppet shows at Dreamland this month, November 1 and 8.

—Charmie Gholson

semble (in costume) in a program highlighted by *Who's That Masked Man?*, Jay Bocook's arrangement of theme music from *Phantom of the Opera, The Mask of Zorro, The Lone Ranger, Spider-Man,* and *The Incredibles*. Also, Robert Sheldon's arrangement of the theme to *Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire*, Franco Cesarini's *The Haunter of the Dark*, John Moss's trumpet quartet *The Summit*, Tom Wallace's *House of Horrors*, Tohru Takahashi's arrangement of Josef Hellmesberger's *Danse Diabolique*, James Barnes' medley of Harold Arlen tunes from *The Wizard of Oz*, and Sousa's *The Gliding Girl* and "Gladiator March." Kids invited to come in costume for a parade across the stage. *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker at Shield, Dexter. Free. 426–2734.*

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. *Nov. 1 & 8. See review, above.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents marionette, rod, and shadow puppet shows for kids. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

★**"Native American Pottery Maker of San Ildefonso": Yourist Studio Gallery.** Screening of this video about potter Maria Martinez. *4 p.m., Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662–4914.*

★**"Solemn Evensong for All Souls": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.** Deborah Friauff directs the church's adult choir in a program that features 3 movements from *Lux Aeterna* by Morten Lauridsen, a much performed contemporary composer renowned for the shimmering mysticism of his vocal lines. Also, the 20th-century English composer Herbert Howells' Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.*

Christine Brewer: University Musical Society. This Grammy-winning soprano recently performed Brünnhilde in the Metropolitan Opera *Ring* cycle. Brewer "pinned us all to our seats and threatened to demolish the walls of the Queen's Hall with her ecstatic new Brünnhilde voice," says a *Sunday Times* (London) review. "She was simply devastating." Program: Wagner's *Wesendonck Lieder*, Britten's *Cabaret Songs*, 3 Richard Strauss songs, and more. Accompanist is **Craig Rutenberg.** *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$50 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House VII barn, 1580 Dhu Varren Rd. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 747–8138.*

U-M Ballroom Dancers. *Every Sun.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (Nov. 1, 8, & 29) & Michigan League Ballroom (Nov. 15 & 22). $3. 763–6984.*

2 MONDAY

★**"Back Roads Ramble": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.* Slow-paced ride, 12–35 miles, along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low-traffic destinations. *9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. off Country Club Dr., Barton Hills. Free. 761–2885 & 663–5060.*

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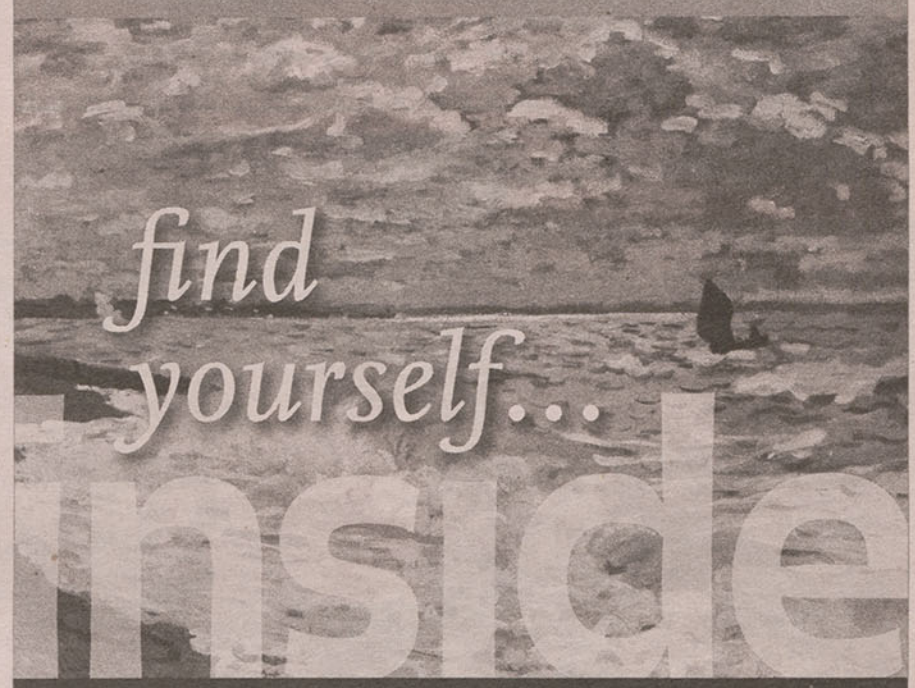

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Organized by UMMA, this exhibition is made possible in part by the Florence Gould Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the University of Michigan Health System and Office of the Provost. The project would not have been possible without the generosity and cooperation of the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) and features exceptional loans from the BnF and the Musée d'Orsay.

Gustave Le Gray, *The Beach at Sainte-Adresse, View of the Cliffs (Plage de Sainte-Adresse, vue de la falaise)*, 1856, albumen print, Musée des civilisations de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée, Paris, on deposit to the Musée des Beaux-Arts, Troyes; Claude Monet, *The Sea at Le Havre*, 1868, oil on canvas, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Purchase 53.22)

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The Playing for Change Band

From the virtual to the real

At the beginning it's ordinary—a video of a Santa Monica street musician, a bluesman named Robert Ridley, singing the Ben E. King evergreen "Stand By Me" with a few words of inspiring introduction. Then, an idea that's perfectly simple, yet that nobody had ever thought of before: a producer takes the recording to other musicians around the world, who hear it on headphones and add their own voices or instruments. His microphone encounters singers in New Orleans and Amsterdam, a circle of Zuni drummers in New Mexico, an Italian saxophonist, a cellist in Russia, a South African female vocal ensemble, and so on. The producer mixes them all together, and the video, put up on YouTube, attracts the attention of 15 million people directly, plus millions more via news and late night shows on television.

"Playing for Change" has been an Internet phenomenon, and a novel one even by the compressed time scale of the medium—it's easy to forget that YouTube is less than five years old. It's novel as well in its attempt to leverage the sheer momentum of tens of millions of people who have seen something and felt it was worthwhile enough to tell their friends about it. With a goal no less lofty than to "inspire, connect, and bring peace to the world through music," Playing for Change has filled in the space between clever YouTube notion and distant ideal with some intermediate steps: a documentary film, various television appearances, and a foundation, to be financed by profits, that will set up music and art schools around the world.

And now there's a Playing for Change live concert. It started with a few shows on the coasts and a big event at Britain's Glastonbury Festival, but now it's a full-fledged tour. The current Playing for Change Band includes the straw-hatted New Orleans musician Grandpa Elliott and the Surinamese-Dutch singer Clarence Bekker from the "Stand by Me" video, as well as musicians from other Playing for Change collaborations. Many of these songs are of African-American origin, which is one thing worth pondering when the Playing for Change Band comes to the Ark on November 2. Another is the necessity of the live show itself—nifty and new as the Internet phenomenon may be, sooner or later, as Neil Young says, it all gets real.

—James M. Manheim

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** *Nov. 2 & 9.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army Citadel, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10 a.m.–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($100 per semester dues for those who join). 213–3770, 769–0784.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play groups are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues., 10–11 a.m., & Thurs., 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed., 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri., 10:30–11:30 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★**"War and Warfare in the Middle/Near East: Past and Present": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies Lecture Series.** *Every Mon.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Topics include **"Steppe Aerobics"** (Nov. 2), **"Warfare in the Ancient Near East"** (Nov. 9), **"The Muslim Conquest of Byzantine North Africa"** (Nov. 16), **"Jihad"** (Nov. 23), and **"Mugged by Reality: Obama and the Arab-Israel Dispute"** (Nov. 30). *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0350.*

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon.* All seniors age 55 & over invited to play. Bring a partner. Also, at 1 p.m., **mah-jongg** (free). *12:45–4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2. 769–5911.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"Budgeting for National Security: How Much Should We Spend?": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Talk by former Under Secretary of Defense Douglas Brook. *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–3893.*

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Mon.* All invited to read from and discuss this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Also, local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a **study group** on the book, every Thurs., noon–1:30 p.m. *6:45–8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327–0270.*

★**"Thymes & Rosemary": Evening Herb Study Group.** Talk by a speaker TBA. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–8303.*

★**"Uncommon Women and Others": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M theater professor John Neville-Andrews discusses playwright Wendy Wasserstein and the upcoming U-M production of her groundbreaking 1977 play (see 19 Thursday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4560.*

Dream Group. *Every Mon. (tentative).* All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. *7:30 p.m., 215 N. Seventh St. Donation. 662–5925.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 213–3172.*

★**"Orchids and Philately": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Talk by club member and U-M biological chemistry professor Harry Winter. The club also sponsors a **holiday party** Nov. 16. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army Citadel, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free. 761–5859.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon.* Instruction in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-sole shoes recommended. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). $5. 769–1052.*

★**"The Modern Compositional Voice": U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble.** This adventurous music student ensemble plays works by the intense serialist composer Pierre Boulez and by the eclectic contemporary minimalists Nico Muhly, Lee Hyla, and David Lang. The program concludes with John Adams' stunningly virtuosic Chamber Symphony. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Robert Peavler: EMU Music Department.** Recital by this baritone, a new EMU music professor. Piano accompanist is Joel Schoenhals. *8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2282.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

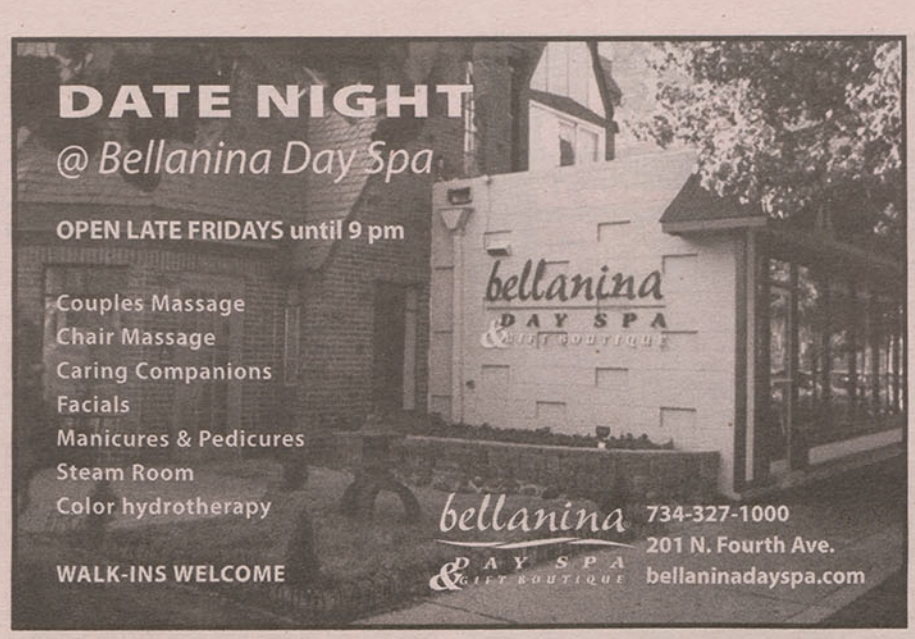
3 TUESDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** *Nov. 3–6, 8–13, & 15.* Display and sale (at retail prices) of more than 2,000 new books by Jewish authors, ranging from cookbooks, expensive gift books, children's books, and reference books to books by local authors and new titles hot off the presses. (Publishers plan their releases for November, which is Jewish Book Month.) The fair also includes a number of talks and performances by various Jewish authors. Today at 7:30 p.m., *Wall Street Journal* columnist Jeff Zaslow discusses ***Girls from Ames: A Story of Women and a 40-Year Friendship,*** his account of the lifelong bonds among a group of ordinary women who grew up in Ames, Iowa. The talk is preceded at 7 p.m. by a **dessert reception.** *9 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Lunch available at the daily noon programs for $12 ($10 in advance). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play bridge. No partner required. Also, Tues. at 10 a.m., **Scrabble.** *9:30 a.m.–noon (Tues.) & 12:45–4 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Wed., 10–10:30 a.m.), Traverwood (Tues., 11–11:30 a.m., & Wed., 6–6:30 p.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs., 7–7:30 p.m., & Fri., 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, followed at 1 p.m. by **mahjongg, cards, board games,** and **quilting** and other craft projects. Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*



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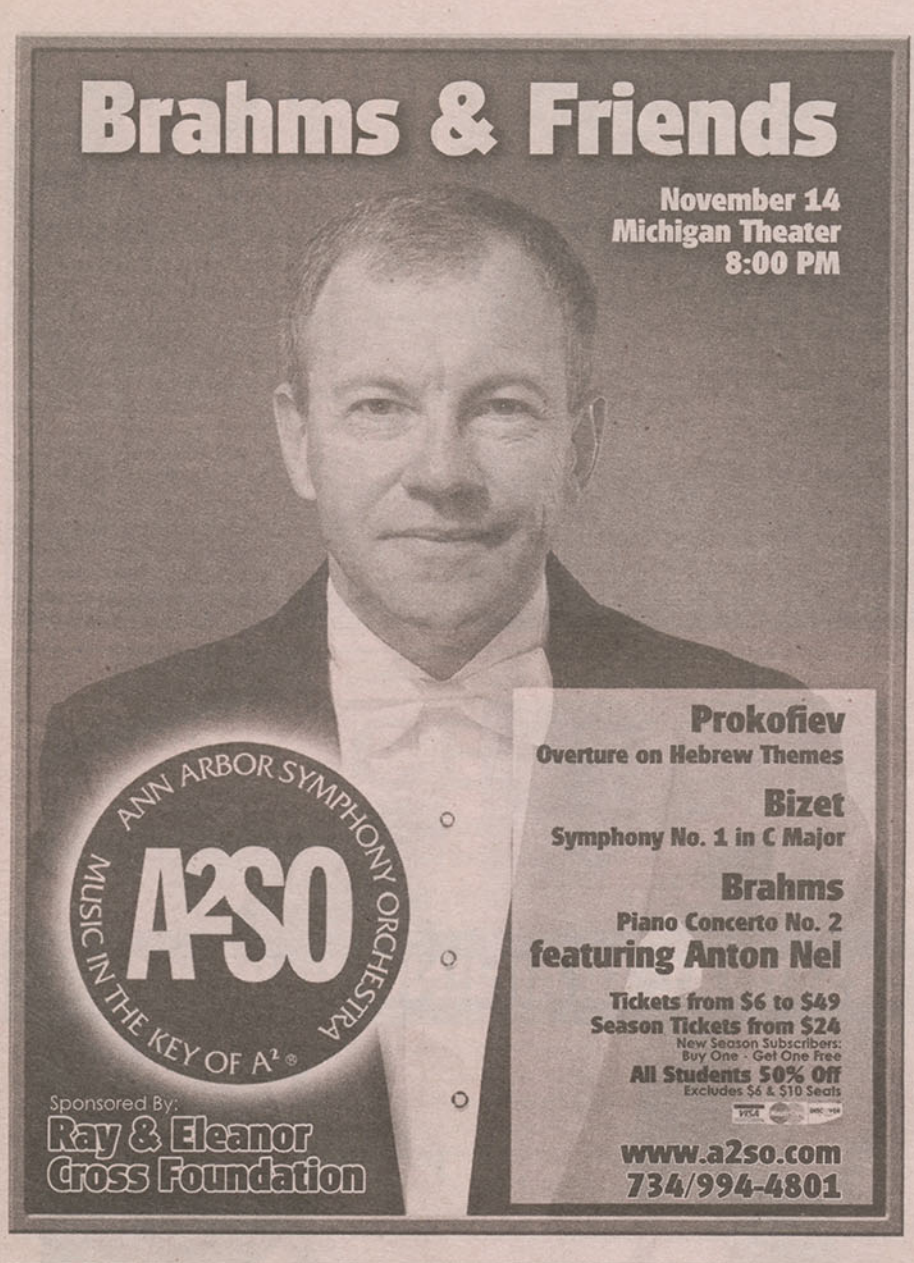


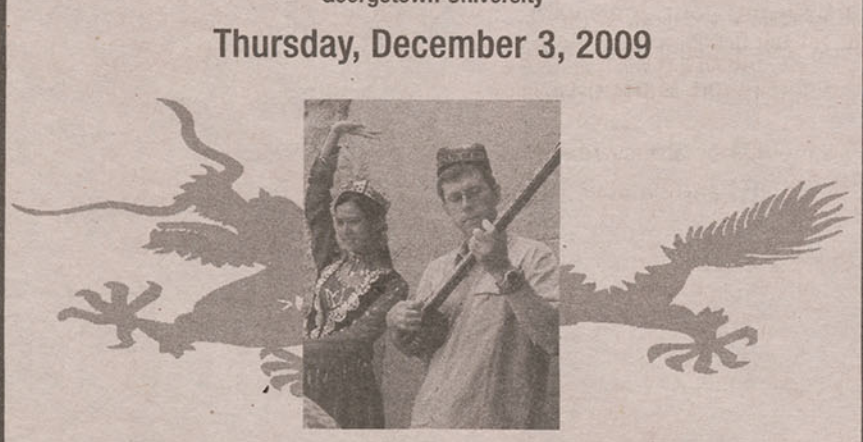
Center for Chinese Studies Public Lecture Series • University of Michigan • Fall 2009

China as Eurasian Subcontinent: Perspectives on the Past and Future

A Lecture by James Millward

Associate Professor of History, Walsh School of Foreign Service
Georgetown University

Thursday, December 3, 2009



6:00pm: Reception • Rackham 4th floor Assembly Hall
7:00pm: Presentation • Rackham 4th floor Amphitheater

Rackham Graduate School
915 East Washington Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1070

CENTER FOR CHINESE STUDIES

This talk is co-sponsored by the U-M Center for Chinese Studies and the Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia.
For more information, please call the China Center at 734-764-6308.

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** *Every Tues.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. This month's highlights include talks on **"Inventorying Barbarians: An Early Modern Chinese Pictorial Vogue"** (Nov. 3) and **"Revealing Erasures: Visual Representation of Women in China, 1949–2009"** (Nov. 17). For complete schedule, see ii.umich.edu/ccs. *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities.** *Nov. 3 & 17.* Bring a bag lunch. Today: Ann Arbor Public Art Commission members Margaret Parker, Elaine Sims, and Larry Cressman discuss **"Art in the Public Realm: Find It Ann Arbor."** Also this month: U-M art history professor Raymond Silverman on **"Being Invited to One's Own House: Reflections on Culture and Heritage in Techiman, Ghana"** (Nov. 17). *Noon–1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** Retired local attorney Jerry Prescott, author of the mystery novel *Deadly Sweet in Ann Arbor,* discusses **"Mysteries and Horror."** Coffee, tea, & dessert served. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (preregistration required). All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area are invited. *12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Free. Low-cost child care arrangements available in advance only. 834–2775.*

★**"Complete Inventions: The Galilean Telescope and Its Rivals": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program.** Talk by Princeton University comparative literature professor Eileen Reeves. *4–5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 647–3766.*

★**Food Talks: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market.** *Nov. 3, 5, 12, & 13.* Talks and demos by Whole Foods staffers. Today: **"Seafood for the Holidays."** Also this month: **"Holiday Appetizers"** (Nov. 5), **"Holiday Desserts"** (Nov. 12), and **"Roasting Turkey 101"** (Nov. 13). *5 p.m. (Nov. 3) & 6 p.m. (all other dates), Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy. Cranbrook Village shopping center. Free. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★**Bhanu Kapil: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series.** Reading by this Naropa University (Boulder, CO) writing professor whose writing blends poetry and fictional and nonfictional prose. *5 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their current projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945–3035.*

★**Common Thread Knitters Club.** *Nov. 3 & 17.* All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. *7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

★**Ann Arbor Area Writers Group.** *Every Tues.* All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. *7–9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665–8194.*

★**"Joys of Azaleas": Ann Arbor Rhododendron Society.** Talk by Grand Haven gardener "Azalea John" Migas. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 769–2015.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank Dr.). $7 (students, $4; children age 13 & under, free). 665–7704.*

★**"The View from the Gallery: Why Jewish Museums Matter": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Princeton University Judaic studies professor Jenna Weissman Joselit. *7 p.m., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Arts and (Incarcerated) Bodies": U-M Arts on Earth.** New York Philharmonic principal bassist **Jon Deak** performs his *Lady Chatterley's Dream,* a work that incorporates chants and sighs. Also, U-M English professor and Prison Creative Arts Project founder **William Alexander** and U-M art & design and social work professor **Janie Paul** discuss the relationship of art to symbolic and literal incarceration. *7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 615–8738.*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($20 monthly dues for those who join). 480–8843.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel at 445–1925.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tues.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7:30–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($80 per semester dues). 213–3770.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *Nov. 3 & 17.* Tonight: local photographer Terry Melman discusses **"All about Image Sharpening."** Also this month: **"Spectacular Waterfalls, Stunning Glass"** (Nov. 17), a digital slide show featuring the best photos taken by club members on a field trip to the Watkins Glen/Ithaca (NY) area in June. Also, other club members show slides (Nov. 3) and prints (Nov. 17) on various topics, including this month's assignment, **"Comic."** *7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium (Nov. 3), 1701 Newport, & Forsythe Middle School media center (Nov. 17), 1655 Newport. Free. 327–4781.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***La Voz Dormida,*** Dulce Chacon's novel about women in the Spanish civil war. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"The Swift Path": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Nov. 3, 10, & 17.* Talk by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *7:30–9 p.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). $10 (students & seniors, $5). 994–3387.*

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394.*

★**Nancy Ambrose King: U-M School of Music.** This U-M oboe professor is joined by 2 U-M colleagues, hornist **Adam Unsworth** and pianist **Sylvia Wang,** in works by Carl Reinecke, C.P.E. Bach, Saint-Saens, Milan Slavicky, and Heinz Holliger. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena.** *Every Tues.* All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. *10 p.m., the Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222–9999.*

4 WEDNESDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: Council on Foreign Relations adjunct fellow for Middle East Studies **Dan Senor** discusses his and *Jerusalem Post* editorial editor Saul Singer's ***Start-Up Nation: The Story of Israel's Economic Miracle*** (noon), and *New Republic* senior editor **Jonathan Cohn** discusses his ***Sick: The Untold Story of America's Health Care Crisis—and the People Who Pay the Price*** (7:30 p.m.). 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**"Food for Life: Choices That Matter": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Talk by U-M Cancer Center dietitian Nancy Burke. *9:30–11 a.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998–9353.*

★**Storytime: Waters Place Borders.** *Every Wed.–Fri.* Borders staff read from books for infants, babies, and toddlers. *10 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 6:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997–8884.*

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Wed. & Thurs.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *Noon–4 p.m. (Thurs.) & 12:45–4:15 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5. 769–5911.*

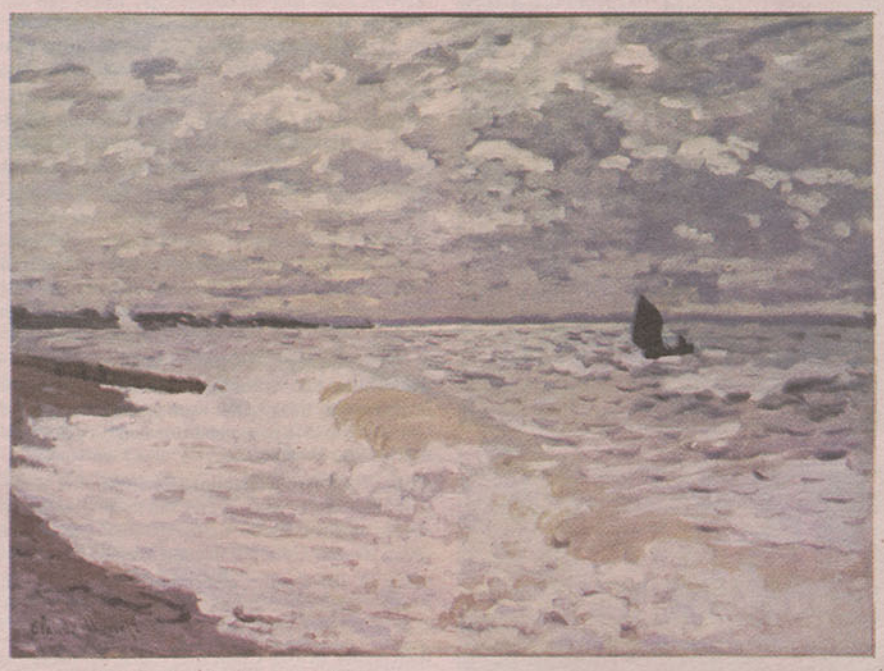
★**"The Lens of Impressionism": U-M Museum of Art.** *Nov. 4, 7, 8, 11, 15, 21, 22, & 29.* Docent-led tours of the current exhibit. *Noon (Wed.) & 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Nov. 4 & 11.* Today: **"A Retrospective on Classic U-M Songs,"** a lecture-demo by U-M grad Michael Montgomery, a sheet music collector who has done extensive research on "The Victors" and other U-M songs. Also this month: Kempf House president Kjirsten Blander discusses **"Lustron Homes"** (Nov. 11), the enamel-coated steel houses introduced after WW II. *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**"Fool's Gold and Fossils: A Paleontologist's Love/Hate Relationship with Pyrite": U-M Library.** Talk by U-M Museum of Paleontology collection manager Daniel Miller. *Noon, U-M Hatcher Graduate Library Gallery, Room 100. Free. 615–3194.*

Cross-Pollinating Media

"The Lens of Impressionism: Photography and Painting Along the Normandy Coast, 1850–1874"



Claude Monet's *The Sea at Le Havre*

Here's a telescope—a time-travel telescope. Set it for eleven years ago, and focus it on senior curator Carole McNamara gazing at Whistler's painting, *Sea and Rain,* and wondering how the U-M Museum of Art could best use its sketchy oil. From that simple moment evolved "The Lens of Impressionism," UMMA's new exhibit that boasts loans of major and rare artworks, scholarship that's actually interesting if not riveting, and an engrossing story of how a whirligig of forces shaped photography and painting on the Normandy coast in the mid-nineteenth century.

It's a fascinating look at the beginning of photography and Impressionism and how each influenced the other. While UMMA has focused the lenses so we can see how social, technological, artistic, commercial, and industrial changes all played into one another, the thrill of the exhibit is to stand in front of these ninety-some works.

Before you are some of the first *en plein air* photographs—some with negatives, which is, McNamara says, a rare and "totally fabulous" thing. You can be inches away from originals of the massive cliffs at Dieppe and then move a few feet to the left to see pre-Impressionist paintings of the same scene, imitating the same tiny-slice-of-time attitude. Turn to the right to contrast them with earlier, more "finished" paintings.

Stand in the center of the Taubman Gallery for similar panoramas of skyscapes, waves, landforms, seascapes—even tourists themselves. It all makes perfect sense: Yes, of course the railroad opened the coast to the masses, which spawned the tourist trade in this gorgeous region, which attracted visual artists, often working on the same scenes.

"They *were* looking at each other's work," McNamara says, and cherry-picking from the other's advantages—photography's informality and painting's editing capabilities, for example. Painters fiercely carried that informality banner into Impressionism. Manet's *On the Beach,* for instance, depicts a bather posed almost like an Odalisque on the sand. It could hardly be less formal or more scandalous to the Parisian art sensibility. Photographers, who couldn't edit unwanted things out of the photos, did paint on their negatives or put two together, sometimes not even from the same location.

Back then, no one knew how these sometimes competing, sometimes cooperative influences would pan out, much as we don't know what results will emerge from today's media. But thanks to the scholarship and a decade of dogged work by McNamara and many others at UMMA, wheedling rare works from the Bibliothèque nationale de France, the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre, and museums all over the United States, we've got a focal point trained on the nascence of Impressionism.

Truthfully? The lure of Impressionists is why I came. Three Monets? Including *The Sea at Le Havre,* over which I drooled? They didn't disappoint. But I stayed for the scholarship—the narrative, the extras. See the exhibit, which continues through January 3, on a guided tour if you can—there are several this month, beginning November 4—just for the stories.

—Sally Wright Day

Exhibit Openings

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Instructor & Student Show* (through Nov. 22). 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5:30 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, *Malletts Creek Branch,* 3090 E. Eisenhower. *The Faces of Mexico and Guatemala: Color Photography by Fotogypsies, Angela & Jim George* (Nov. 2–Dec. 14). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4510.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *25th Anniversary Exhibition* (Nov. 1–Dec. 4). See 8 Sunday. Reception Nov. 6, 7–9 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 662–7927.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Energy: Charles McGee at Eighty-Five* (Nov. 9–Dec. 19). See 9 Monday. Reception Nov. 9, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Energy: Charles McGee at Eighty-Five* (see EMU Ford Gallery above—exhibition in both spaces). Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–0465.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Mixed Media by Chrisa Craig and Photography by James Heitler* (Nov. 2–Jan. 29). Reception Nov. 8, 4 p.m. 998–9353.

Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. *Capturing Motion,* works that move or express, depict, or imply movement (Nov. 4–Dec. 6). Reception Nov. 6, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. 997–7012.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *An Amble in the Forest: Artistic Reflections on the Flora of North and South America—Watercolors by Angelis Jackowski* (opens Nov. 3). Hours by appointment and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

Sh\aut\ Cabaret & Gallery, 325 Braun Ct. *Photography by John Gress* (Nov. 20–Dec. 13). Reception Nov. 20, 7 p.m. Hours during evening events. 663–0036.

U-M Bentley Historical Library, 1150 Beal. *The Gargoyle Trawls the Depths for Humor: 100 Years of Cartoons and Quips at the University of Michigan* (through Dec. 31). Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–noon. 764–3482.

U-M Clements Library, 909 South University. *Reframing the Color Line: Race and the Visual Culture of the Atlantic World* (through Feb. 19). Mon.–Fri. 1–4:45 p.m. 764–2347.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer. *Book of Iterations: Books, Sculpture, and Installation by Pippa Skotnes* (Sept. 8–Oct. 17). Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M International Institute, 1080 South University. *Commemoration of the Events of 1989* (Nov. 1–Dec. 11). Photos about the fall of the Berlin Wall. Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. 763–9200.

U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. *Mary Upjohn Meader: Pioneering Adventures over Africa* (Nov. 1–Apr. 30). Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–4 p.m. 764–9304.

U-M Library Gallery, Hatcher Graduate Library Room 100. *United We Win: The University of Michigan During World War II* (Nov. 1–30). *Audubon Room* (opens Nov. 1). Mon.–Thurs. 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 1–7 p.m. 615–5783.

U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. *Apples, Peas, and Pumpkin Pie: Where in the World Does Our Food Come from?* (Nov. 1–29). Tues. & Thurs.–Sun. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Wed. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. 647–7808.

U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. *The Image Wrought: Historical Photographic Approaches in the Digital Age* (Nov. 7–Jan. 17). Tues., Wed., & Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m.–10 p.m.; Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–0395.

U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery, 701 East University. *The Four Corners: Intaglio Prints by U-M Art & Design Professor Emeritus Takeshi Takahara* (Oct. 23–Dec. 4). Daily noon–8 p.m. 763–0176.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *All Student Exhibition* (Nov. 20–Dec. 12). Reception Nov. 20, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–2082.

U-M Special Collections Library, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, seventh floor. *Back in the USSR: Ann Arbor's Ardis Publishing and Russian Literature* (through Dec. 23). Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–noon. 764–9377.

WCC Gallery One, Student Center Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr., 1st floor. *Meanwhile: Recent Work by U-M Art & Design Professor Jim Cogswell* (Oct. 10–Dec. 11). See 11 Wednesday. Reception Nov. 11, 7–8 p.m. Mon. & Tues. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.–noon. 477–8512.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Figures & Spaces: Works by U-M Art & Design Lecturer Nora Venturelli* (Oct. 27–Dec. 6). Reception Nov. 6, 6–9 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2009–2010 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

FIGURES & SPACES
NORA VENTURELLI
October 27–December 6, 2009
Reception: Friday, November 6, 6–9pm
WSG gallery
306 s. main st., 734.761.2287
www.wsg-art.com

Ann Arbor Cantata Singers
American Sampler
a concert of music by American Composers
November 22, 4pm
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
306 N. Division, Ann Arbor
Tickets: $10/8 students and seniors, $12/10 at the door.
www.a2cantatasingers.org

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Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and The Kettering Foundation
(National Issues Forum Insitute)
Invite you to a deliberation and discussion on
Regaining American Prosperity: Building an Economy That Works For Everyone
Tuesday, November 17, 2009
5:00 p.m.
The question we must address is: Once we restart the economy, how can we build it into a place where we would want to live?
Call the Library for more information at (734) 205-0595.
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The Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase Celebrates its 25th Anniversary

Megan Mooney
November 5 6 7

HBO
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Heywood Banks
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Special Engagement

Our perennial favorite makes his annual Thanksgiving Weekend visit with his whimsical musings and outrageous songs.

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
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Back by popular demand!
MARCH OF THE PENGUINS
SUN. NOV. 1 1:30 PM
FREE! For kids 12 & under
Thanks to Benard L. Maas Foundation & TOYOTA

The Ark presents
KEB' MO'
with special guest Kristina Train

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NOVEMBER 11
7:30 PM
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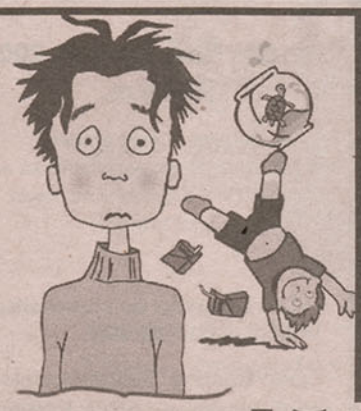

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★**"Four Angles of Vision on the Holocaust in the Soviet Union: Germans, 'Collaborators,' Jews, and the Soviet Government": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** Talk by U-M Judaic studies professor Zvi Gitelman. Bring a bag lunch. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Injuries in the Developing World: A Challenge for Health Systems": U-M School of Public Health.** Talk by Johns Hopkins international health professor Adnan Hyder. *3 p.m., 1690 SPH I, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. 615–6284.*

★**"Action Principles and the Dynamics of Spinning, Rolling, and Skating": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M mathematics professor Anthony Bloch. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free. 998–6251.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers.** *Every Wed.* All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set, if you have one. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

★**Storytime: Arborland Borders.** *Every Wed. & Fri.* A Borders staffer reads stories and leads a craft project for toddlers. Raffle. *6:30 p.m. (Wed.) & 11 a.m. (Fri.), Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.*

"Day of the Dead Celebration": Eve. A multicourse Mexican-inspired feast. *7 p.m., Eve, Kerrytown. $45. Reservations required. 222–0711.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★**Children's Writers Group.** *Nov. 4 & 18.* All local children's writers invited to discuss their work. *7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–9848.*

★**"Finding Funding for a College Education": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M Foundation and Grants librarian Karen Downing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**"Contemporary Art in China: Where Has It Come from and Where Is It Heading?": U-M Museum of Art.** Talk by Asia Society (New York) museum director Melissa Chiu. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a reception. *7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Pushing Boundaries: Christians and the Arts": U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship.** Talk by Christians in the Visual Arts director Cam Anderson. *8 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 668–7421.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 4, 11, & 18.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Wednesdays @ Michigan Union: Swing Ann Arbor. *Nov. 4, 11, & 18.* Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by intermediate swing (7:30 p.m.) and beginning swing (8:30 p.m.) lessons. *9:30–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room (occasionally Ballroom or U-Club). $5 (includes lessons; students, $4; $1 discount for members). 945–8428.*

5 THURSDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: Edgar-winning mystery novelist **S.J. Rozan** discusses *Shanghai Moon* (noon), her historical mystery about the disappearance of the heirloom jewels of a Jewish refugee from Nazi-annexed Austria, and journalist **Abigail Pogrebin** discusses her memoir ***One and the Same: My Life as an Identical Twin and What I've Learned About Everyone's Struggle to Be Singular.*** (7:30 p.m.). 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

"National Policy Issues: Hot Potatoes, the Way Forward": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs. (except Nov. 26), Oct. 29–Dec. 10.* A series of 6 lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. Today: U-M economics professor emeritus Saul Hymans discusses **"Anti-Recession Policy and the (Humongous) Federal Budget Deficit."** Also in the series: Upjohn Institute for Employment Research senior economist Kevin Hollenbeck on **"Working First or Learning First? Developing the Workforce"** (Nov. 12), and U-M School of Public Health associate dean Dean Smith, director of the U-M Center for Value-Based Insurance Design, on **"Health Insurance Reform: I'm Moving to Canada; How about You?** (Nov. 19), Michigan Public Service Commission Renewable Energy manager Tom Stanton on **"Michigan's Superstar Role in the 21st Century: Leading a Revolution in Advanced Energy Technologies"** (Dec. 3), and retired FBI senior agent Gregory Stejskal on **"Born in the USA: Homegrown Terrorism"** (Dec. 10). *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $45 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series, $25 (members, $10) per lecture. Memberships are $15 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs. except Nov. 26.* Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Today: See Jewish Book Festival listing above. Also this month: see 12 Thursday Jewish Book Festival listing (Nov. 12), and a performance by Oak Park singer-pianist **Avy Schreiber** (Nov. 19). *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

"Hawk, I'm Your Brother": Wild Swan Theater. *Nov. 5–7.* This award-winning local children's theater presents its adaptation of Byrd Baylor's children's book about a Native American boy who longs to fly like a hawk. With live music by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly. *10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (seniors age 60 & over and kids, $8; lap passes for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

★**Noon Lectures Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** *Nov. 5, 12, & 19.* Talks by visiting scholars. This month's highlight is **"Death and Buddhism in the Middle Ages"** (Nov. 12), a talk by Yamagata University cultural studies professor Kenji Matsuo. For complete schedule, see ii.umich.edu/cjs/eventsprograms/noon. *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★**"Our Great Lakes": Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters.** Talk by club members Shirley Axon and Jean Kluge. *Noon–1 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–5808.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Nov. 5, 12, & 19.* Performances by area and guest artists. Today: Motown and classic rock tunes by guitarist **Daniel Goree** and bassist **Donald "Bopper" Clark.** Also this month: acoustic folk-rock by **Souls Alike** (Nov. 12) and Celtic, contemporary, bluegrass, and Latin music by **Acoustic Eidolon** (Nov. 19). *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★**"Kosovo from NATO's Intervention to Independence: An Appraisal": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by **Veton Surroi,** a former member of the Kosovo assembly and the founder of one of Kosovo's biggest daily newspapers. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**Japanese Health Care—A Sytem that Works: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** Panel discussion with *Washington Post* reporter and NPR commentator **T.R. Reid,** U-M political science professor emeritus **John Campbell,** and John Carroll University anthropology professor **Susan Orpett Long.** *4 p.m., U-M Alumni Center, 200 Fletcher. Reservations requested by emailing umcjs@umich.edu. Free. 764–6307.*

"Thursday Night Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Nov. 5, 12, & 19.* Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Also, tastings and small plates of food. Today: **"Top 10 Red Wines."** Also this month: **"Wines for Turkey"** (Nov. 12) and **"Beaujolais Nouveau Day!"** (Nov. 19). Also, **Michigan beer tastings** ($1 tastes, $3 pints) at 5 p.m. with representatives from **Dark Horse Brewery** (Nov. 6) and **Arbor Brewing Company** (Nov. 20). *5–7 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $17. 997–7500.*

★**U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** *Nov. 5, 12, & 19.* Today: world renowned sleight-of-hand performer **Jamy Ian Swiss** on **"Sleight of Hand: How Bodies Fool Minds."** Also this month: photographers **Robert & Shana ParkeHarrison** on **"Intent"** (Nov. 12), and U-M art and design professor and graphic novelist **Phoebe Gloeckner** on **"Through a Glass Darkly"** (Nov. 19). *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** *Nov. 5, 9, & 19 (different programs).* Readings by poets and fiction writers. Today: Nonfiction reading by **Patricia Hampl,** an acclaimed writer whose most recent memoir, *The Florist's Daughter,* is about her parents' death. "Hampl is a memoirist almost completely devoid of ego," says a *New York Times* review. She uses "her own experiences to understand what is exterior, amorphous, longed for [in] a voice that is highly suspicious of glorifying the self." *5:15 p.m., U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710. 764–0395.*

★**Board Game Night: Get Your Game On.** *Every Thurs. & Sat., except Nov. 26.* All invited to bring a favorite board game or play one of the store's. *6 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786–3746.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 26.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

★**"The Marianas Trench: Deepest Spot in the Ocean": Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society.** Screening of this documentary. Nonmembers welcome. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

★**"Natural Health and Raw Food": Living Yoga.** Lecture-demo by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston and Health 101 Institute director Don Bennett. They also present a lecture-demo ($10 with preregistration required at 996–8111) at Arbor Farms, 2103 W. Stadium, on Nov. 19, 6:30–8 p.m., and Livingston hosts a **raw food potluck** on Nov. 15 (1–3 p.m., location TBA; call 995–0875). *7–8:30 p.m. Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–9174.*

★**"Thank God I Came from a Dysfunctional Family": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Bellanina Day Spa & Institute owner Nina Howard discusses her story, which is included in the collection *Thank God I...Stories of Inspiration for Every Situation 2.* Signing. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"The Development of Multicultural Children's Literature": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by EMU English professor Sheila Most. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Story of Edgar Sawtelle": Nicola's Books.** Colorado writer **David Wroblewski** reads from and/or discusses his best-selling coming-of-age debut novel about a Wisconsin farm boy, born mute, who flees to the wilderness with 3 yearling dogs when his efforts to prove his uncle's complicity in his father's death backfire. "It's a novel about the human heart, and the mysteries that live there, understood but impossible to articulate," says Stephen King. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. *Nov. 5–8.* Lynn Lammers directs young local actors in Frank Gabrielson's musical adaptation of L. Frank Baum's classic tale about Dorothy's journey to the Emerald City and back. *7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $15 (students age 18 & under and seniors age 65 and over, $10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

★**"Dead Man's Cell Phone": U-M Basement Arts.** *Nov. 5–7.* Roman Micevic directs students in Sarah Ruhl's comedy about an unremarkable woman who answers the phone of a man who's just died and relishes the emotional power she wields by talking to his friends and relatives. "It's the deep-seated need for attention in all of us that Ruhl exploits," says *Washington Post* critic Peter Marks, "the notion that by knowing what to say, we can make someone listen to us." *7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement. studentorgs.umich.edu*

Ann Arbor Ski Club. *Nov. 5 & 19.* All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings, tennis, golf, and other sports and social activities. Followed by a **dance** (Nov. 5) and a **skiwear fashion show** (Nov. 19). *7:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. $5. 786–2237.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Dr. Johnson's Printer: The Life of William Strahan,*** J.A. Cochrane's biography of Samuel Johnson's chief publisher. Refreshments. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs. except Nov. 26.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dancing to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

"The Little Prince": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. *Nov. 5–8.* Claudia Wier directs young local actors in E.J. West's adaptation of Antoine de Saint-Exupery's delightful tale of a jaded aviator stranded in the Sahara whose outlook on life is changed by a prince who visits our world from his own tiny planet. Appropriate for kids age 4 & over. *7:30 p.m., WCC Liberal Arts Bldg. College Theatre, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $5 in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

★**Chinese Ensemble of the Art Troupe of Renmin University of China: U-M Confucius Institute.** Traditional and neotraditional contemporary Chinese music by this ensemble that features **Yang Wei,** a world-renowned master of the pipa (Chinese lute) who was part of Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project. The inaugural events of the new U-M Confucius Institute also include a lecture by U-M Chinese arts & culture professor Martin Powers this afternoon at 1:30 p.m. in the U-M Museum of Art Stern Auditorium. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–3982.*

★**Motor City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Thurs. except Nov. 26.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *8–10 p.m., ICC Education Center (behind Luther House at 1520 Hill). Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Park on Lincoln or Baldwin. 474–1155.*

★**"Mix and Match with a Violin Attached": U-M Symphony Band Chamber Winds.** Michael Haithcock and guest conductors Rodney Dorsey and John Pasquale conduct this music student ensemble in Mozart's Serenade no. 11 in E-Flat, Karl Henning's *Out in the Sun,* Orff's *Der Mond,* and Weill's Concerto for Violin and Wind Orchestra with guest violinist Stephen Shipps. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Katinka": Comic Opera Guild. *Nov. 5 & 7.* Dana Sadava directs area singers in a concert production of Rudolph Friml's 1915 operetta, set in Russia and Turkey, about various ruses that bring together two separated lovers. *8 p.m., Vitosha Guest Haus, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12; Thurs., $10) in advance at Ticketmaster.com and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Megan Mooney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 5–7.* Stand-up comic known for her relaxed, personable style and her smart, edgy, often sarcastic observational humor on a variety of unhackneyed topics. Named "Funniest Person in Austin" in 1998, she now lives in New York City. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

6 FRIDAY

★**"Whitmore Lake Coffee Break": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Fri.* Slow-paced 20-mile ride to Gloria's Restaurant in Whitmore Lake. *9 a.m., meet at Olson Park, Dhu Varren at Pontiac Tr. Free. 663–4498.*

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: New York writer **Michael Rosen** discusses ***What Else but Home: Seven Boys and an American Journey from the Projects to the Penthouse*** (noon), his acclaimed memoir about his unofficial adoption of several black and Hispanic kids from an impoverished New York neighborhood who befriended his 7-year-old son in a pickup baseball game. 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

★**"Piecing Earth Together": Church Women United World Community Day.** Women of all faiths invited to this annual ecumenical celebration. Coffee and refreshments. *9:30 a.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free. 665–8773.*

"Hawk, I'm Your Brother": Wild Swan Theater. See 5 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**1st Friday Brown Bag Concert Series: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** AASPA wind, string, and piano faculty perform works in a variety of genres. Bring a bag lunch. *Noon, Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, 637 S. Main. Free. 213–2000.*

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** *Nov. 6 & 13.* Talks by visiting scholars. Topics include: **"Peranakan Musical Cultures in Singapore"** (Nov. 6) and **"Explaining the 2009 Parliamentary and Presidential Votes in Indonesia"** (Nov. 13). *12:10 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★**Movie Matinee: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Fri.* Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available ($2.50), 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

U-M Detroit Observatory. *Nov. 6 & 15.* Half-hour docent-guided tours of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope

Christmas Carol

adapted by Joseph Zettelmaier

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NOVEMBER EVENTS

Christine Brewer soprano
Craig Rutenberg piano

Sun, Nov 1 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

The Times (London) raved about American soprano Christine Brewer's Edinburgh Festival recital, saying "[Brewer] pinned us all to our seats and threatened to demolish the walls of the Queen's Hall with her ecstatic new Brünnhilde voice in her selections of Strauss, Wolf, Britten and spirituals...she was simply devastating."

PROGRAM
Gluck "Divinites du Styx" from Alceste
Wagner Wesendonk Lieder
Songs by R. Strauss, Marx, Britten and others

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MEDIA PARTNER **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

Keith Terry and the SLAMMIN All-Body Band

Fri, Nov 6 | 7 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Keith Terry and his musical colleagues SLAMMIN use any and all surfaces to create rhythm and dance using nothing but their own bodies.

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Gal Costa and Romero Lubambo

Sat, Nov 7 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

"Gal Costa's melting, sensuous voice has been a Brazilian pop archetype since she was the muse and advocate of the Tropicália movement." (*The New York Times*) Now the great female vocalist makes her area debut as part of UMS's ongoing exploration of the superstars of Brazilian music, which has brought Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil and more to Ann Arbor in recent years.

MEDIA PARTNERS **WEMU 89.1 FM, METRO TIMES,** AND **ANN ARBOR'S 107ONE.**

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Sun, Nov 8 | 4 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

Alex Ross of *The New Yorker* writes, "The St. Lawrence are remarkable not simply for the quality of their music making, exalted as it is, but for the joy they take in the act of connection."

PROGRAM
Haydn String Quartet in F Major, Op. 77, No. 2 (1799)
Ravel String Quartet in F Major (1902-03)
Adams Second Quartet (2008)

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Yasmin Levy

Sat, Nov 14 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Declared the "next world music superstar" by London's *Guardian*, Israeli-born Yasmin Levy visits Ann Arbor as part of her US debut tour, performing her unique blend of flamenco, Middle Eastern, Mediterranean, and Sephardic Jewish Ladino songs.

MEDIA PARTNER **WEMU 89.1 FM.**

Berliner Philharmoniker

Simon Rattle conductor

Tue, Nov 17 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Arguably the world's finest orchestra, the Berliner Philharmoniker returns to the area for the first time since 2001 with conductor Simon Rattle as part of an exclusive tour that includes only a handful of US cities — New York, Chicago, Boston, and Ann Arbor.

PROGRAM

Brahms	Symphony No. 3 in F Major, Op. 90 (1883)
Schoenberg	Begleitmusik zu einer Lichtspielszene, Op. 34 (1929-30)
Brahms	Symphony No. 4 in e minor, Op. 98 (1884-85)

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AND **RANDALL AND MARY PITTMAN.**

Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda
Patti LuPone

Gerald Wirth artistic director

Fri, Nov 20 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Fresh off her rapturously received, role-defining stint as Mama Rose in *Gypsy*, Tony Award-winning Broadway diva Patti LuPone – the original Evita – takes us on a high-spirited tour of songs and roles she "could have played, should have played, did play and will play."

CO-SPONSORED BY **ROBERT AND PEARSON MACEK.**
MEDIA PARTNER **BETWEEN THE LINES.**

Christmas in Vienna
Vienna Boys Choir

Sun, Nov 29 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

The famed Vienna Boys Choir gave their first UMS concert more than 75 years ago. Now, a new crop of choristers between the ages of 10 and 14 visit Ann Arbor with a special holiday program.

THE 09/10 FAMILY SERIES IS SPONSORED BY **TOYOTA**
MEDIA PARTNER **WRCJ 90.9 FM.**

EDUCATION EVENTS

PENNY STAMPS LECTURE SERIES:
"Sleight of Hand: How Bodies Fool Minds"

Thu, Nov 5 | 5:10-6:10 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

A COLLABORATION WITH ARTS ON EARTH AND THE U-M CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH, A. ALFRED TAUBMAN COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING, U-M SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN, U-M COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, U-M DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, U-M SCHOOL OF KINESIOLOGY, U-M DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY, AND THE U-M SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE.

WHO IS GAL COSTA? An interview with Gal Costa
Conducted by U-M Professors Sueann Caulfield and Jesse Hoffnung-Garskoff

Fri, Nov 6 | 1-2:30 PM
U-M CLEMENTS LIBRARY

A COLLABORATION WITH THE U-M CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES AND THE U-M INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND GENDER.

MASTERPIECES REVEALED: Ravel String Quartet in F Major
Speaker: Glenn Watkins, U-M Professor Emeritus of Musicology

Mon, Nov 2 | 7-8:30 PM
U-M MUSEUM OF ART COMMONS AREA

A COLLABORATION WITH THE U-M SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE AND THE U-M MUSEUM OF ART.

FREEDOM WITHOUT WALLS EXHIBITION OPENING AND DESSERT RECEPTION

Sun, Nov 15 | 6:30 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM MEZZANINE LOBBY

A COLLABORATION WITH THE U-M DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN, DUTCH AND SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES; U-M CENTER FOR RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES; U-M PROGRAM ON INTERGROUP RELATIONS; NEUTRAL ZONE; U-M ALUMNI CENTER, AND U-M SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN.

9s FILM. The Power of the Powerless.

Sun, Nov 15 | 3-4:30 PM
Tue, Nov 17 | 4-5:30 PM
U-M MUSEUM OF ART HELMUT STERN AUDITORIUM

A COLLABORATION WITH THE U-M MUSEUM OF ART, U-M CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES – EUROPEAN UNION CENTER, U-M CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE STUDIES, U-M CENTER FOR RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES, THE U-M INTERNATIONAL POLICY CENTER, AND U-M WEISER CENTER FOR EMERGING DEMOCRACIES.

9s PROJECT. "Collapsing Borders—Einstürzende Grenzen."
Featuring Markus Guenter and nospectacle

Fri, Nov 20 | 6-9 PM
DUDERSTADT CENTER VIDEO AND PERFORMANCE STUDIO

A COLLABORATION WITH U-M SCREEN ARTS AND CULTURES, U-M CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES – EUROPEAN UNION CENTER, U-M DIGITAL MEDIA COMMONS, AND U-M WEISER CENTER FOR EMERGING DEMOCRACIES.

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dome. *4–7 p.m. (Nov. 6) & 1–4 p.m. (Nov. 15), U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 763–2230.*

★**"Television, Participatory Culture, and Politics: The Case of *Indian Idol*": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by U-M communications professor Aswin Punathambekar. For complete schedule of the center's weekly lecture series, see ii.umich.edu/csas. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0448.*

★**AXIS Coffeehouse: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Nov. 6 & 13.* All youth in grades 6–12 invited to perform their own poetry or monologue or a favorite by another writer, or just to sip a hot drink and listen. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**Ignite Ann Arbor.** About 16 local speakers give 5-minute slide-illustrated talks on a topic of their choice. Topics from the last session in June included everything from high-flying balloons to hacking the library. *7 p.m., U-M Business School Blau Auditorium, 701 Tappan. Free. Reservations recommended at igniteannarbor.com. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. organizer@igniteannarbor.com*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 332–7964.*

★**U-M Parents Weekend Celebration: Main Street Area Association.** Sidewalk entertainment TBA. There's also sidewalk entertainment on Nov. 13, 7–9 p.m., to kick off an MSAA **window display contest** in which businesses decorate their display windows to compete for prizes. *7–9 p.m., downtown area bounded by Main, Liberty, Washington, and Fourth Ave. Free. 669–7112.*

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** *Nov. 6 & 20.* Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: fiction by **Yalitza Ferreras** and poetry by **Beth Divis.** *7 p.m., U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★**Jonathan Lethem: Downtown Borders.** This acclaimed novelist reads from ***Chronic City,*** his new novel, set in Manhattan's Upper East Side, about a former child star whose fiancée is trapped on the International Space Station. Signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**"Weather Channels": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local puppeteer Carrie Morris presents her multimedia production that uses shadow puppets and video projections to present the love story between an Antarctic Yeti and a Florida weather forecaster. For kids in grades K–3. *7–7:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Keith Terry & the SLAMMIN All-Body Band: University Musical Society. Percussionist Terry and his instrumentless band present a family-friendly concert of body music. Terry "claps his hands, rubs his palms, finger-pops, stamps his feet, brushes his soles, slaps his butt and belly, pops his cheek, whomps his chest, skips and slides, sings and babbles and coughs, building his music out of a surprisingly varied register of sounds and clever rhythmic variations," says a *Village Voice* review. *7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10 (kids, $5) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. See 5 Thursday 7 p.m.

★**"Dead Man's Cell Phone": U-M Basement Arts.** See 5 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. WSU. The U-M also has games this month against **NMU** (Nov. 14) and **Houston Baptist** (Nov. 20). *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Miami (Ohio). *Nov. 6 & 7.* The U-M team also has matches this month against **MSU** (Nov. 13), **Bowling Green** (Nov. 20), **Minnesota** (Nov. 27), and **Wisconsin** (Nov. 28). *7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $19–$25. 764–0247.*

Tea Tastings: TeaHaus. *Nov. 6–8.* Chicago tea sommelier Sam Ritchey leads tea tastings, including **"A Closer Look at the World's 'New' Tea Regions"** (Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. & Nov. 8, 11 a.m.) and **"A Journey Through the World's Tea Gardens"** (Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m. & Nov. 8, 3 p.m.). Tea-inspired treats. Also, on Nov. 15, a **"Full English Tea Service"** *(10 a.m. and 1 & 4 p.m., Cake Nouveau, 206 N. Fourth Ave. $26, $50 per twosome. Reservations required.)* with a brief talk by a TeaHaus staffer on the history of English tea traditions. *7:30 p.m. (Nov. 6 & 7) and 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. (Nov. 8), TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $20. Reservations required. 622–0460.*

Ron White: Tater Touring. Best known as a member of Jeff Foxworthy's "Blue Collar Comedy Tour," this veteran Texas stand-up comic is known for a point of view that's politically incorrect in both the

Escanaba

The Origin of the Esca-pades

As Jeff Daniels burrows back in U.P. time, his titles get shorter. Simply titled *Escanaba*, the third of the trilogy that began with *Escanaba in da Moonlight* and was prequeled a few years ago by *Escanaba in Love*, this pre-prequel takes place in 1922 and lays down the first principles of the Soady deer camp where all future Esca-pades take place. When *Da Moonlight* premiered at the Purple Rose in 1996, it seemed a kind of north woods *Dumb and Dumber* (Daniels' 1994 movie with Jim Carrey). And perhaps it was. Daniels' playwriting career was in its infancy then, but now that he's got a substantial body of work behind him, it's easier to see that Daniels' acting challenges one year have become his playwriting fodder the next. See, for instance, how the 2005 film *The Squid and the Whale* got him thinking about the intellectual community, resulting in his *Guest Artist*, produced at the Purple Rose in 2006.

Since introducing the Soady clan, Daniels has brought many scripts to the Rose (there's nothing like owning the theater when you're an aspiring playwright!), but he seems most at home and most genuinely himself in the big, mythic, romantic, pre-industrial American landscape. Of all the plays he's written, these larger-than-life Paul Bunyanesque tales are the plays that seem to flow most easily.

Escanaba is the best of the trilogy for the sheer, quiet beauty of the acting. Not to suggest that the present play is lacking the trademark *Escanaba* ingredients: magical realism U.P.–style and raunchiness inflicted on the audience with what feels almost like hostility on the part of the playwright. But Daniels has whittled the noisy, manic Soady kith and kin down to just its two primogenitors, Jim Negamanee (Wayne David Parker) and Alphonse Soady (Tom Whalen). Parker and Whalen are, you might say, two of the Purple Rose's primogenitors, and watching them knit together this loose, broad comedy with finely crafted actorly intelligence is a little like seeing the history of the Purple Rose flash before your eyes. Parker seems to infect the sometimes spacy, languid Whalen with a sharper edge than he usually possesses.

A major subplot involving a historical character, played by Julian Gant, also comes into it, but this is less successful than the interplay between Parker and Whalen. While I have no inside track on why or how Daniels came to write *Escanaba*, it pleases me to think it was a kind of tribute written to showcase two actors who have done so much to make him a playwright.

—Sally Mitani

red and the blue states and for a cigar-chomping, scotch-drinking, flamboyantly disreputable onstage persona that masks a razor-sharp wit and unflappably sweet temper. He has released 2 top-selling CDs, *Drunk in Public* and the recent *Ron "Tater Salad" White: I Had the Right to Remain Silent . . . But I Didn't Have the Ability. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $45.75 at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Working": Community High School Ensemble Theater. *Nov. 6–8.* Phil Walker directs Community High students in Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso's 1978 Broadway musical, adapted from Studs Terkel's book, a chronicle of day in the life of 26 typical American workers. *7:30 p.m., Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. 9 Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $7) at the door only. 994–2021.*

"The Little Prince": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 5 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. *Nov. 6 & 20.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *8–10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 764–3440.*

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *Nov. 6 & 20.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *Sleep and Dreams*. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *8–9:30 p.m., 3247 N. Wagner (Nov. 6) & 1923 Geddes (Nov. 20). Free. 944–4903.*

Kaufmann–Gratkowski–de Joode: Canterbury House. Improvised music by the European trio of pianist Achim Kaufmann, saxophonist-clarinetist Frank Gratkowski, and bassist Wilbert de Joode. "From hot, Dolphy-esque cascades to piano-roll pointillism, to unresolved twelve-tone tales, it's improvised chamber music of the highest order" says *Signal to Noise* critic Clifford Allen. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students, $5). 761–3162.*

Paul VornHagen Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This jazz trio, led by award-winning local saxophonist-flutist-vocalist VornHagen, plays originals as well as works by Duke Ellington, Thelonius Monk, Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, Gershwin, and others. With pianist Tad Weed and bassist Kurt Krahnke. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $15 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Looking Glass: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Revamped lineup of this veteran pop band led by singer-guitarist Elliot Lurie and singer-keyboardist Jeff Lehman that first gained attention with the 1972 chart-topping pop-rock hit "Brandy (You're a Fine Girl)." Their live shows include their own radio hits and album cuts, along with pop, rock, soul, and R&B covers. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"G-Fest": U-M Gentlemen. Performances by this all-male student a cappella group, the student percussion and dance ensemble **Groove,** the student theater group **MUSKET,** the co-ed a cappella ensemble **Dicks and Janes,** magician **Alan Smola,** the theatrical swordplay group **Ring of Steel,** the student dance ensemble **Funktion,** and **Leim Irish Dance.** Also, screening of the winning short film from the U-M Screen Arts & Cultures **Lightworks** film festival. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $10 (students, $5) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

"The Charlatan": Comic Opera Guild. *Nov. 6 & 8.* Dana Sadava directs area singers in a concert production of Charles Klein and John Phillip Sousa's operetta that incorporates rollicking Gilbert-and-Sullivan-style dialogue. *8 p.m., Vitosha Guest Haus, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12; Thurs., $10) in advance at Ticketmaster.com and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?": U-M Residential College Players. *November 6–8.* RC students present Edward Albee's classic drama about the cruelty spouses are capable of inflicting on each other. A college history professor and his wife invite a younger faculty couple to their house for cocktails. As the evening unfolds, the middle-aged hosts begin to dig at one another, first subtly, then with increasing malevolence, prodding their guests to join them in a vicious game of emotional and intellectual bullying that reaches a shattering conclusion. *8 p.m., RC Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. $3. 763–0176.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Megan Mooney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Swing Dance Party": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring hard-sole shoes. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *8:45–11:45 p.m., Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. $5 (includes lessons; students, $3). 417–9857.*

7 SATURDAY

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Nov. 7 & 21.* Programs presented by Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck. Today: **"Bird Hike"** (8 a.m.). Bring binoculars and a field guide. Also this month: **"Wild about Turkeys"** (Nov. 21), a program on the biology and habits of the wild turkey and its comeback from near extinction. *8 a.m. (Nov. 7) & 1 p.m. (Nov. 21), Hudson Mills activity center 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $2. Preregistration required. $4 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

"Transition Towns: Use Less, Live More": Living Lightly. All invited for a day of activities to learn about the Transition Town movement and about the kind of skills needed to make the transition to a low-energy future. Local foods lunch ($10) available. *8:30 a.m.–4 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7748 Clark Rd., Chelsea. Free; donations accepted. 475–1892*

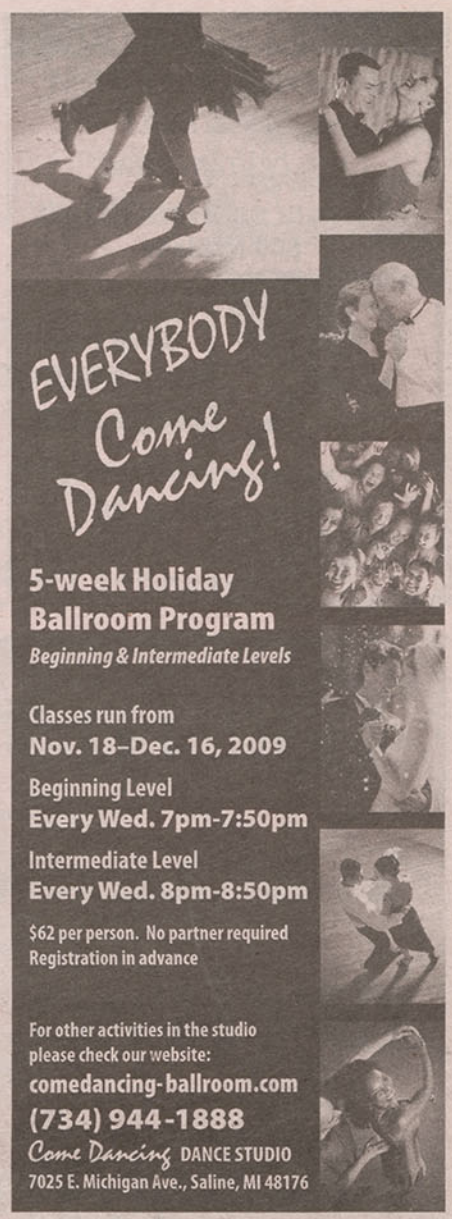
Mom to Mom Sale: Mitchell Elementary School PTO. *9 a.m.–2 p.m., 3450 Pittsview. Free admission. 434–9130.*

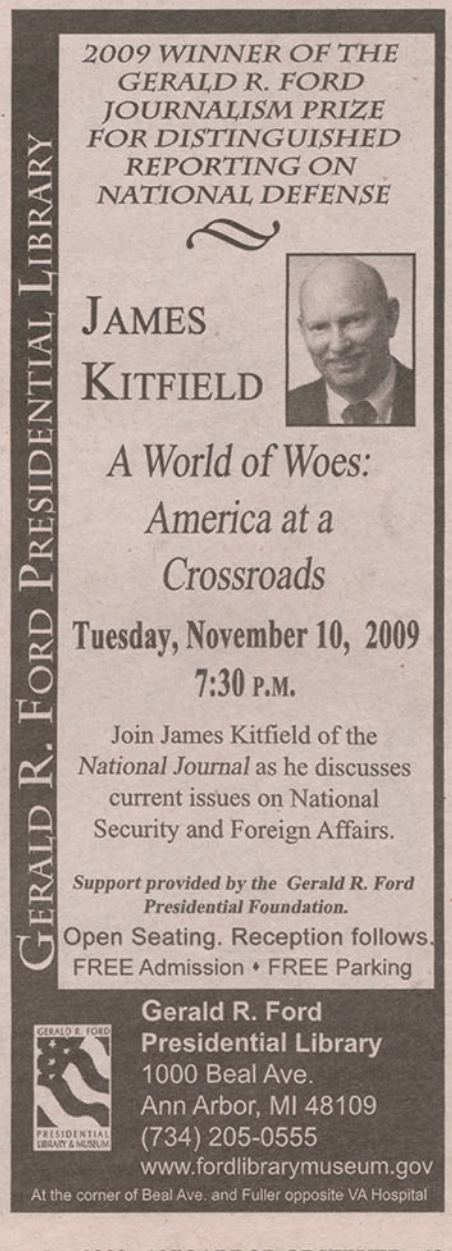
★Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Washtenaw County treasurer Catherine McClary discusses the county's new **land bank program for foreclosed and blighted properties.** Discussion follows. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30–80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. A very popular ride. Also on Sat.: **"Sunrise Saturday Ride"** *(sunrise, Wheeler Park),* a very slow-paced 22-mile ride (662–0205, 971–9201) to Dexter for breakfast and back. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. For information, call 996–9461 (Nov. 7 ride), 761–5959 (Nov. 14), 426–5116 (Nov. 21), 996–4985 (Nov. 28).*

★"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. *Nov. 7, 14, & 21.* Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty and visiting scholars. Today: U-M math professor Tony Bloch on **"Dynamics of Spinning, Rolling, and Skating."** Also this month: U-M physics professor Jim Allen on **"The Science of Music"** (Nov. 14), and Kenyon College physics professor emeritus Thomas Greenslade on **"Sparks and Wiggles"** (Nov. 21). *10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764–4437.*

★Youth Events: Ann Arbor District Library. *Nov. 7, 25, & 29.* Today: **"Dancing Babies"** *(11–11:45 a.m., Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy.).* Creative movement teacher Dianne Dudley leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a dancing program. Also this month: **"Make a Thanksgiving Centerpiece"** *(Nov. 25, 2–3:30 p.m., Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.).* Craft activity for preschoolers through 5th graders. **"Wool Bunnies or Bears"** *(Nov. 29, 1–3 p.m., Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.).* Kids in grades K–5 invited to make a wool bunny or bear. *Various times and AADL locations. Free. 327–4200.*

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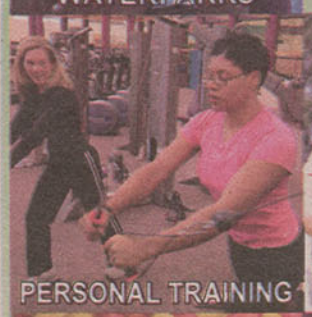
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★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling program for kids age 7 & under. *11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $5 per player; free for spectators. $4 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

U-M Football vs. Purdue. *Time TBA, Michigan Stadium. Sold out. 764–0247.*

"Super Science Shows": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Nov. 7, 8, 21, & 22.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. Also, on Nov. 14 (10 a.m.–4 p.m.) & 15 (noon–4 p.m.), a "Sciencepalooza" on **"We've Got Chemistry."** *1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $8 regular admission (members & infants, free). 995–5439.*

★**"The New UMMA": U-M Museum of Art.** *Every Sat. & Sun. beginning Nov. 7.* Docent-led tours of the recently renovated museum. *1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**Waterloo Recreation Area.** *Nov. 7, 14, & 21.* Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Kathy Kavanaugh unless otherwise noted. Today: **"Getting Their ZZZ's."** A program about the hibernation process and the animals that use it to survive winter. Also this month: **"Comets: Icy Visitors from Afar"** (Nov. 14), a chance to make your own miniature comet, and **"Tracks & Scats"** (Nov. 21), an investigation of what can be learned about mammals and birds from the evidence they leave behind. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area. Preregistration requested. Free. $6 vehicle entry fee. 475–3170.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. *2–4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

★**Warhammer/Warmachine Open Play: Get Your Game On.** *Every Sat.* All invited to play these 2 tactical miniatures board games. *2 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786–3746.*

"Hawk, I'm Your Brother": Wild Swan Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Pickle Tasting": Morgan & York.** Rick's Picks representative Jan Hack discusses artisanal pickled vegetables. Tastings. *3 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. Free. 662–0798.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *Nov. 7 & 21.* All musicians invited for a contra music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook* if you have it. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 994–9307.*

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a **kids drum circle** ($10) hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. *4–5 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.*

★**In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Water Street,*** Crystal Wilkinson's novel about the secret lives of several people living on the same street in a small town in Kentucky. *4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Freedom Fund Dinner: NAACP Ann Arbor Branch. Featured speaker is Washtenaw County Sheriff **Jerry Clayton.** The program also honors African American students in the Ann Arbor Public Schools who have maintained a 3.2 grade-point average or better over the past academic year. *6:30 p.m., Four Points Sheraton Inn, 3200 Boardwalk. $50 in advance only. (Sponsor a scholar, $35.) 761–9084.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. English dances (7 p.m.) and contras (8 p.m.) to live music. All dances taught; no partner needed. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a **potluck** (bring a dish to pass). *7 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $9 (members, $8; students, $5). 769–1052.*

16th Annual Hometown Concert: Saline Fiddlers. Traditional American fiddle songs, bluegrass, and high-energy American folk by this renowned touring fiddle ensemble of 30 Saline students. Tonight's guest headliner is **Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp,** an Illinois-based ensemble led by fiddler Stroughmatt that performs the entire range of Mississippi River valley French Creole music, from traditional Cajun music to rubboard-driven zydeco to blues-based swamp rock. *7 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Tickets $15 & $20 in advance at salinefiddlers.com, and (if available) at the door. (866) 257–5333.*

"A Veterans Day Tribute to the Andrews Sisters": Kerrytown Concert House. Local soprano **Elizabeth Major** and mezzo-sopranos **Wendy Bloom** and **Monica Swartout-Bebow** sing popular 1940s songs, including "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Hold Tight," "Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen," "Apple Blossom Time," and others. Band members include pianist Pete Ford, trumpeter Dave Sycks, bassist Aaron Keaster, and drummer Steve Fentriss. *7 & 9 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$35. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. See 5 Thursday 7 p.m.

★**"Dead Man's Cell Phone": U-M Basement Arts.** See 5 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Oklahoma!": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. *Nov. 7 & 8 and 13–15.* U-M theater student Mary-Michael Patterson directs Pioneer High School students in the landmark Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, a sentimental love story set in the Oklahoma Territory on the eve of statehood. The show's many well-known songs include "I Cain't Say No," "People Will Say We're in Love," "Surrey with the Fringe on Top," and the rousing title chorus. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets $12 (seniors age 65 & over and students, $9) in advance at Morgan & York (1928 Packard) and at the door. 994–2191.*

"The Little Prince": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 5 Thursday. 1 & 7:30 p.m.

"Working": Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 6 Friday. 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Anthony Bourdain: Ann Arbor Conversations. This TV culinary personality, host of the Travel Channel's *No Reservations*, is known for his disdain for processed foods (and for Rachael Ray) and for his willingness to try any food, from raw seal eyeballs to whole cobras. He first gained popularity with his 2000 best-selling book *Kitchen Confidential*, a witty exposé of the culinary world's seedy underbelly, from coke-addicted chefs to diners being served near-rotten meat when they order their steaks well done. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $45–$65 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

★**"Debussy's 'Musique à moi'": U-M Museum of Art/U-M School of Music.** U-M grad Rachel Lauber conducts flutist **Amy Porter** and soprano **Caroline Helton**—both U-M professors—as well as harpist **Amy Ley,** soprano **Jennifer Goltz,** and U-M music students in works by Debussy. Program: the celebrated String Quartet in G Minor, *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune, Deux danses,* the Wagner-style *Cinq poèmes de Baudelaire,* and *Trois poèmes de Mallarmé. 8 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

Ralph Katz & Company. This local ensemble led by clarinetist Katz plays music by Brahms, Elgar, Saint-Saens, Louis Spohr, Beirish Katz, and others. With pianists Dave Gitterman and Ted Wyman, soprano Jenny Young, and vocalist and bassist Nan Nelson. Proceeds benefit the Temple Beth Emeth Brotherhood. *8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. $10 in advance at templebethemeth.org, $15 at the door. 663–1288.*

"10th Annual MACFest": Michigan A Cappella Council. A showcase of 14 U-M a cappella groups featuring performances by the Dicks & Janes, 58 Greene, the Compulsive Lyres, the Friars, the G-men, Gimble, Good News, the Harmonettes, the Headnotes, Kol Hakavod, the Kopitonez, Maize Mirchi, the Sopranos, and Amazin' Blue. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $10 in advance by emailing ashewest@umich.edu, and (if available) at the door. umich.edu/~umsing*

Gal Costa: University Musical Society. Popular Brazilian singer with what the *New York Times* calls a "melting, sensual voice [that] has been a Brazilian pop archetype since she was the muse and advocate of the Tropicália movement in the 1960s." Tonight she is joined by guitarist **Romero Lubambo** in bossa nova tunes by Antonio Carlos Jobim and jazz standards. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Katinka": Comic Opera Guild. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?": U-M Residential College Players. See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

Megan Mooney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club.** Tango dancing to music spun by DJ Gloria. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 973–2338.*

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. *Nov. 7 & 21.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to recorded music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., danceRevolution, Dakota Bldg., 220 S. Main. $5. 945–8428.*

8 SUNDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: **American Girl tea** (12:15 p.m.) for elementary and middle school boys and girls, who are invited to bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal for a reading from the 1st book in the series set in 1914 New York about the 9-year old Jewish girl Rebecca Rubin. Also, actor **Michael Tucker** and his wife (and former *L.A. Law* co-star) **Jill Eikenberry** discusses Tucker's memoir ***Family Meals: Coming Together to Care for an Aging Parent.*** (7:30 p.m.). 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** *Nov. 8 & 22.* Retired Montessori teacher Winifred Wylie discusses Rupert Sheldrake's ***Dogs That Know When Their Owners Are Coming Home and Other Unexplained Powers of Animals*** (today), and club members discuss their **"Favorite Reading"** (Nov. 22). *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994–4473.*

★**U-M Women's Soccer vs. Penn State.** *Noon, U-M Soccer Field, 2250 S. State. Free. 763–2159.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"The T-Touch: Ann Arbor Companion Bird Club.** Animal therapist Manuela Hejna discusses this touch therapy for animals. Bring your bird. *1–3:30 p.m., Animal Kingdom, 4990 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 662–4582.*

★**"Living Traditions of the Three Fires": U-M Exhibit Museum.** Storyteller **Larry Plamondon** of the Grand River Bands of the Odawa tells Native American tales at 1, 2, & 3 p.m. Plamondon is also the narrator of a new and expanded version of the planetarium show on Native sky legends ***Sky Legends of the Three Fires*** ($5), which is shown at 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. *1–4:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave. Free (unless otherwise noted). 764–0478.*

"The Little Prince": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 5 Thursday. 1 & 3 p.m.

★**"Mounted Orchids: Fact & Fantasy": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** California orchid grower Harry Phillips discusses and demonstrates the best way to grow orchids on different mounts. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, a silent auction, raffles, and a chance to ask experts about plant problems. Refreshments. *1:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–0756.*

"Vegan Thanksgiving Feast": Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. Cooking demo (with tastings) featuring vegan roast, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie cheesecake, and cranberry truffles. Whole Foods also sponsors free talks (preregistration required) at 7 p.m. on **"Avoiding Colds and Flu with Nutrition"** (Nov. 10), **"Female Herbs for Every Age"** (Nov. 11), and **"Heart and Meridian Test"** (Nov. 17). *2–4 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. $10. Preregistration required. 975–4500.*

"Preserving Traditions": Pittsfield Union Grange. All invited to try a traditional food preservation technique TBA. *2–4:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $5 (Grange members, free). Reservations required. 997–8844.*

★**"What's New on the Horizon for Roses": Huron Valley Rose Society.** All invited to join club members for a discussion. Refreshments. *2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 277–0112.*

★**"Long Wait for Home": Ann Arbor District Library.** Screening of Millersville (PA) University communication professor Changfu Chang's award-winning documentary about international adoption of Chinese children. Followed by a discussion led by Chang. *2–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Reiki for Spiritual Healing": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Reiki master Brett Bevell discusses his new book. Signing. *2–4 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Sharon Fiffer and Libby Fischer Hellmann: Aunt Agatha's.** These 2 Chicago mystery writers discuss their new books. Fiffer's ***Scary Stuff*** is the 6th in her series about a California antiques picker who also works for a PI, and Hellmann's ***Doubleback,*** the second in her series about Chicago PI Georgia Davis, also features the principal character of Hellmann's other series, industrial video producer Ellie Foreman. *2 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.*

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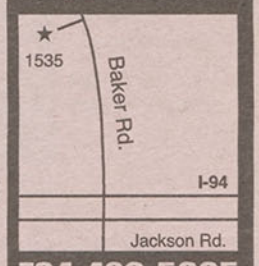

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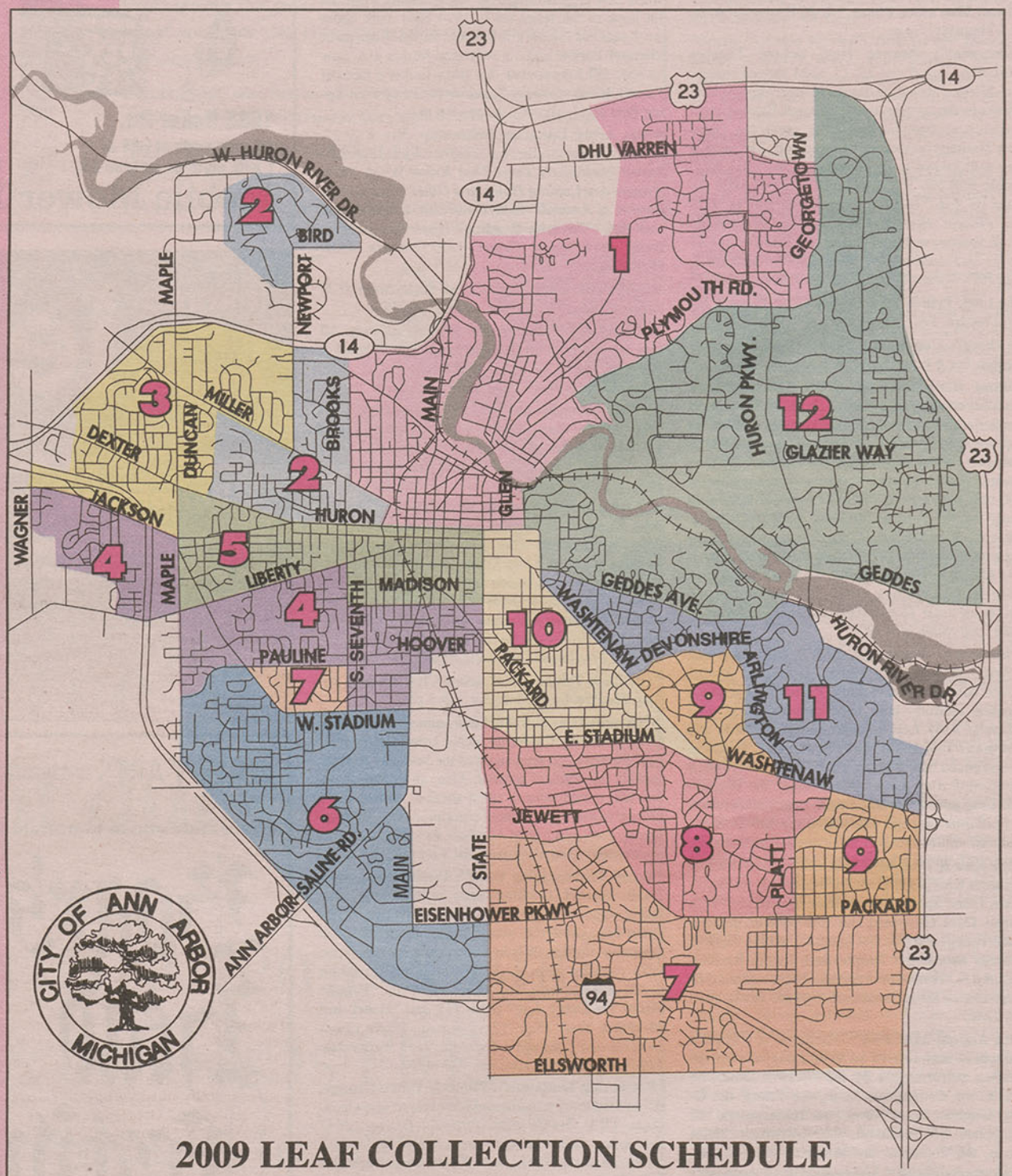

Do

- Sweep fallen leaves into the street before 6 a.m. on the day of collection.
- Remove all vehicles from street parking on the day of scheduled leaf collection.
- Leave one foot of space between the curb and leaves for storm water to run into the gutter. This reduces the risk of flooding in your area.
- Wet the leaves to prevent blowing, if needed.

Don't

- Don't use plastic bags for leaves--keep them loose.
- Don't park cars over dry leaves in order to avoid potential fires.
- Don't park on streets with posted tow-away zones. Cars can be ticketed and towed.

2009 LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

SECTION	1st PICKUP	2nd PICKUP
1	Nov. 03	Nov. 24
2	Nov. 04	Dec. 01
3	Oct. 19	Nov. 09
4	Oct. 20	Nov. 10
5	Oct. 21	Nov. 18
6	Oct. 26	Nov. 16

SECTION	1st PICKUP	2nd PICKUP
7	Oct. 27	Nov. 17
8	Oct. 22	Nov. 12
9	Oct. 29	Nov. 19
10	Oct. 28	Dec. 02
11	Nov. 02	Nov. 23
12	Nov. 05	Nov. 30

The **Leaf Collection Hotline 994-8131** provides a recording of the daily locations of leaf pickup crews and areas of posted towing. Community Television Network Channel 19 will broadcast the city's informational leaf collection video on Saturdays at 8:45am., Sundays at 11am, Monday – Friday at 10:15am, 6:15pm & 10:15pm (after FYI) and at random times throughout CTN's weekly governmental programming.

Street leaves will be picked up according to the schedule and map listed above, weather permitting. Street leaf pickups may be delayed if the city's trucks are needed to clear street snow. If the leaf collection schedule is delayed, new collection dates will be assigned. Call the Leaf Collection Hotline, (994-8131) for your revised neighborhood leaf collection date. If you have a concern or question, call the Street Maintenance Division, 994-1617 (Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) or call 994-2818 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Please note that the order of leaf collection has changed to reduce conflicts with solid waste and recycling collection.

For more information about leaf collection and other city services, check out the city's web page at: http://www.ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

poetry

Cody Walker

New poet in town

Although I am an avid reader of contemporary poetry, I understand why many people, predisposed to the art because of their appreciation of the great poems of the past, have chosen to ignore its current practitioners. Unless you stay up with theoretical or conceptual models, some contemporary poetry can seem impenetrable, or at least doesn't appear to give enough compensation for the effort the reader must give it. Sometimes the language can seem completely flat, with none of the interesting sound patterns we expect from poems.

Sometimes, but not always: witness the delightful and provocative poetry of Cody Walker. Recently arrived in Ann Arbor from Seattle, where he was once elected Seattle Poet Populist, Walker published his first book, *Shuffle and Breakdown,* just a few months ago. In it, Walker shows that he can be smart without being pretentious, formal without being conservative, and funny without being slight. He has an ease, even a fascination with often dismissed forms, and plays with them in new ways. Here's one simply called "Limerick":

A new class of antidepressants
Is targeted at adolescents.
They lose track of time,
Of meter, of rhyme,
It's really sad.

Of course that last line is funny—because it breaks our expectations of the jaunty rhythm of the limerick and because the completely colloquial phrase seems out of place. And, then, he's right—it *is* really sad!

A few pages earlier Walker includes some short prose poems that he calls "The Cheney Correspondence (Selected)." There are surprising numbers of contemporary poems that deal in one way or another with the former vice president; I think poets could simply not believe he really said and did some of the things he did, so they tried to present some kind of sensitivity in the face of his callousness. Walker simply assumes that the vice president would be interested in a shared humanity. "Dear Dick Cheney," he writes, "When I was younger I wanted to be a baseball player. But I can't remember whether I loved baseball, or whether I just wanted everyone to love me. A confession, then: I still want everyone to love me—blindly, entirely, without sense or reason. Even you, whom I've regularly excoriated. Fondly, Cody Walker." Of course the moment is funny precisely because we all know Cheney wouldn't care in the least.

But I wouldn't want to leave anyone with the impression that this poet is only funny. *Shuffle and Breakdown* ends with a series of poems written by Walt Whitman's mythical grandson to the near-dead master. One poem, claiming to be written from Chicago in 1891, has these lines: "I wrote you a long letter last week,/then threw it in the lake. It ended/*Your optimism is wrong. It alone/sustains me.*"

Walker reads at Crazy Wisdom Book Store & Tea Room on Wednesday, November 11.

—*Keith Taylor*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–6261, 485–5007.*

"From Shore to Shore: Music in the Key of Sea": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen directs this local volunteer ensemble in Vaughan Williams' *Toccata Marziale* and *Sea Songs,* Malcolm Arnold's *English Dances for Band,* Dwayne Milburn's *American Hymn Song Suite,* Francis McBeth's *Moby Dick*–inspired tone poem *Of Sailors and Whales,* Robert Sheldon's *Metroplex: Three Postcards from Manhattan,* and 2 marches, including Sousa's "Manhattan Beach" and William Latham's "Brighton Beach." *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (seniors age 65 & over and students, $5; kids age 11 & under, free) in advance at aaband.org and at the door. 434–7876.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. See 5 Thursday 2 p.m.

"Oklahoma!": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 7 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"The Charlatan": Comic Opera Guild. See 6 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?": U-M Residential College Players. See 6 Friday. Time TBA.

"Working": Community High School Ensemble Theater. See 6 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

★**"25th Anniversary Exhibition": Clay Gallery.** Well-known area ceramic artist **Robert Piepenburg** discusses the current exhibit (see Galleries). *3 p.m., Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. Free. 662–7927.*

★**"Mrs. Charles Darwin's Recipe Book": Ann Arbor District Library/Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** Writer **Weslie Janeway** discusses this book he cowrote with Dusha Bateson that updates and illustrates Emma Darwin's recipes with annotations on Victorian diets. Refreshments made with recipes from the book. *3–5 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200, 769–5911.*

★**"Le Nozze di Figaro": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk (with musical examples) by Ann Arbor District Library music specialist Richard LeSueur, in anticipation of the U-M production of this Mozart opera (see 12 Thursday listing). *3–4:30 p.m., AADL Freespace (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Faculty Showcase: EMU Music Department.** Performances by EMU music-faculty ensembles TBA. *3 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence String Quartet: University Musical Society. This acclaimed Canadian quartet has been together for over 20 years, performing with "an almost disturbing intensity," according to a *New York Times* review. Tonight they play a 2008 John Adams quartet inspired by one of their performances. Also, Haydn's String Quartet in F Major and Ravel's String Quartet in F Major. *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $20–$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to discuss ***Trouble and Her Friends,*** Melissa Scott's sci-fi novel about lesbian lovers who hack into computer networks to steal industrial secrets. *4:30–6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 Icelandic novels. Arnaldur Indridason's ***Silence of the Grave*** is about a downtrodden detective who looks into Reykjavik's hidden past to solve a crime. Yrsa Sigurdardottir's ***Last Rituals*** is about a German student murdered while studying Iceland's witch-hunting history. *4:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

Paul Renz Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. This jazz ensemble, led by Minneapolis guitarist Renz, plays originals from its new CD *In My Own Hands.* "They take on Renz's songs and go exploring on their own, sometimes collectively, sometimes getting into mini-huddles, and just vibe off each other in a way that makes you want to return to this album over and over," says critic John Book. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

9 MONDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: *Vanity Fair* contributing editor **Howard Blum** discusses his nonfiction novel ***American Lightning: Terror, Mystery, the Birth of Hollywood, and the Crime of the Century*** (noon). **"Baseball Night"** (7:30 p.m.) features former MIT baseball co-captain **Brooks Mendell** on ***Beaverball,*** his memoir about the 1993 MIT championship team, and *New York Times* sports columnist **Ira Berkow** on ***The Corporal Was a Pitcher,*** his book about Lou Brissie, who recovered from severe wounds in WW II to pitch in the major leagues. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**"Dictating Letters in the Ancient World: Reconstructing the Interplay Between Author, Scribe, and Audience": U-M Center for Near Eastern Studies.** Talk by U-M classical studies professor Arthur Verhoogt. *4 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 764–0314.*

★**"Science and Technology Investments and Policy in the Obama Administration": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** Talk by Obama's science & technology policy assistant director Kei Koizumi. *4–5:30 p.m., 1110 Weill, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–3893, 647–3766.*

★**"Petersburg vs. Moscow: Two Big Differences in Russian Klezmerland": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Russian-born poet and singer-songwriter-pianist **Pavel Lion.** *4 p.m., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Galileo's Ghost: 17th-Century Censorship in 21st-Century America": U-M Davis, Markert, Nickerson Lecture on Academic and Intellectual Freedom.** Talk by Columbia University law professor **Philip Hamburger.** This annual lecture honors 3 U-M faculty members who lost their jobs when they refused to testify before the notorious House Un-American Activities Committee in 1954. *4 p.m., U-M Law School Honigman Auditorium, 625 S. State. Free. 769–0376.*

★**MirrorImage: U-M School of Music.** This duo of Florida hornist **Michelle Stebleton** and Pennsylvania hornist **Lisa Bontrager** plays works from their brand new CD *Safari.* Accompanist is Tomoko Kanamaru. *4:30 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Energy: Charles McGee at Eighty-Five": EMU Art Department.** Detroit artist McGee discusses the current retrospective exhibit of his work at the EMU galleries (see Galleries). *5 p.m., EMU University Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1268.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** See 5 Thursday. Today: Fiction reading by **Allan Gurganus,** an acclaimed novelist, short story writer, and essayist best known for his award-winning 1989 novel *Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All.* The late novelist John Cheever called him "the most technically gifted and morally responsive writer of his generation." Gurganus also gives a lecture on **"The Fiction of History: and Vice-Versa"** on Nov. 12 at the same time and location. 5 p.m.

"Fall Estate-Bottled Wine Tasting": Morgan & York. A chance to sample dozens of wines. Cheese & charcuterie. *6:30 p.m., Logan restaurant, 115 Washington. Tickets $45 in advance at morganandyork.com or by calling 662–0798.*

★**"Planning for Transition for Young Adults with Disabilities: Ann Arbor District Library.** Talks by Self-Determination in Washtenaw County leader Erin McMahon, Washtenaw Intermediate School District student services supervisor Neal Elyakin, and Washtenaw Association for Community Advocacy staff members Mary Shehan-Boogaard and Jen Gossett. Also, screening of a short documentary showing how transition to adult life is woven through the lives of different individuals with disabilities. *6:30–8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4200.*

★**"The Fall of the Berlin Wall: 20 Years of Reconstruction and Reconciliation": WCC.** Talk by **Elisabeth Thoburn,** a WCC art history professor who grew up in Dresden before the Berlin Wall fell. *6:30 p.m., 175 Crane Liberal Arts & Sciences Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 973–3371.*

★**Rodrigo Toscano: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series.** Reading by this experimental poet and playwright from Brooklyn (NY). His recent *Collapsible Poetics Theater,* a 2007 winner of the National Poetry Series, exhibits what Cathy

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*Limit one per customer per day. Not valid with any other offer or discount.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR
SIDEWALK REPAIR
PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: Whose responsibility is it to maintain and repair the public sidewalks and walkways?

A: Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the City shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.

Q: How do I report a sidewalk that needs repair? How can I check if my sidewalk needs repair?

A: You simply talk with the City's Sidewalk Repair Office at **(734) 994-2493**. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.

Q: What if the sidewalk damage appears to be caused by tree roots?

A: Please call **(734) 994-2493** to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.

Q: Why doesn't the City make the repairs and bill the owners?

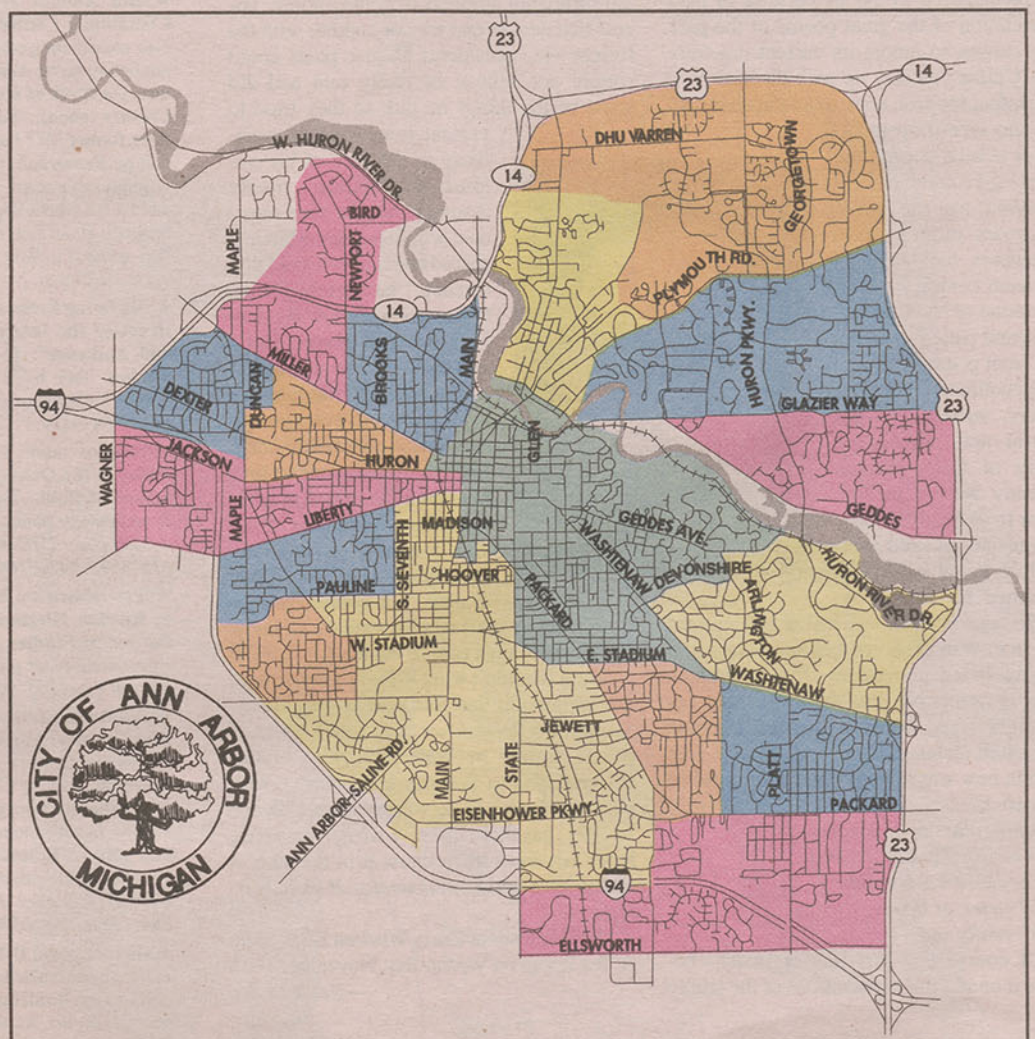
A: When contractor's perform work for the City there is additional costs for the contractor for Bonding, Insurance and the requirement to pay prevailing wages. Based on our Customer Service Survey we found the average cost for a 4" slab for homeowner's in 2008 was $130. The City cost for a 4" slab in 2008 was at least $170

Q: If I don't make the repairs what will the City charge me?

A: The City will make the repairs and pass on all associated costs. In 2008, that would have been a minimum of $170 per slab plus project costs, which were $225 per address.

Q: Why doesn't the City find the contractor for the owner?

A: Based on our Customer Service Survey we have implemented a Contractor Pre-Qualification process. The contractors on the list will be instructed by the City on the procedures of sidewalk repair within the City of Ann Arbor. Contractors will also be rated on their performance by the City and the Customer Service Survey. The ratings will allow us to remove or add contractors based on City and owner experiences.



SIDEWALK INSPECTION SCHEDULE

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010

The City of Ann Arbor has implemented an annual sidewalk repair program to improve the walk-ability of the sidewalks throughout the City. The program will inspect all sidewalks in accordance with the schedule shown on the map. The annual program does not eliminate the citizen request procedure. If you would like to make an inspection request, you may call (734) 994-2493 or send an e-mail to: Sidewalkrepair@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES:

1. Property owners or contractors may obtain the specifications and standards for sidewalk repair from the City's **Community Services Area, located at 2000 S. Industrial (Old Utilities Field Office).**
2. If you plan to do the repair yourself, contact the Community Services Area to obtain a right-of-way permit to work within the public right of way 48 hours prior to the work; you must submit certified proof of insurance in the amount of $100,000.
3. If you plan to have a contractor do the work, have them obtain a right-of-way permit from the Community Services Area 48 hours prior to starting work. In order to be granted the permit, the contractor must submit a certified proof of public liability insurance in the amount of $500,000.

THREE REASONS TO REPAIR YOUR PUBLIC SIDEWALK:

1. Children, the elderly, and the physically challenged use our sidewalks daily. Poorly maintained sidewalks carry high risks for injury. Your help is appreciated to make sure all residents may travel safely along our sidewalks.
2. City Code (chapters 47 and 49) requires property owners to properly maintain the sidewalks and public walkways adjacent to or abutting their property for use by the public.
3. Properly maintained sidewalks decrease your liability and enhance the overall aesthetic image of our City.

Property owners may verify that a contractor has a permit by calling the Community Services Area at (734) 994-2674 at least one day before work begins. Hint: Multiple property owners working together may receive lower prices from a contractor.

More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Nov. 14: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. FREE. 663–1870. Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 11: **"Allah Made Me Funny"** (Andrea Kalin, 2008). Concert film featuring 3 Muslim stand-up comics.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Nov. 20: **"Beyond the Sea"** (Kevin Spacey, 2004). Biopic about 50s rock 'n' roll teen idol turned pop stylist and movie actor Bobby Darin. Kevin Spacey, Kate Bosworth, Bob Hoskins.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice or more, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $9 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $7; MTF members, $6.50). Michigan Theater, times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 1: **"March of the Penguins"** (Luc Jacquet, 2005). Mesmerizing documentary about the life cycle of the Antarctic emperor penguin. Kids age 12 & under, FREE.

Nov. 1–5: **"Amreeka"** (Cherien Dabis, 2009). Drama about a single mom and her teenage son who leave the West Bank for a small Illinois town. English & Arabic, subtitles. **"A Serious Man"** (Joel & Ethan Coen, 2009). Dark comedy set in 1967 about a midwestern professor whose life unravels when his schlemiel of a brother won't move out of his house.

Nov. 2: **"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers"** (Stanley Donen, 1954) Rollicking musical, best remembered for its dance numbers, about 7 outdoorsmen who kidnap women from town when they decide they want wives.

Nov. 6–12: **"Coco Before Chanel"** (Anne Fontaine, 2009). Biopic that stars Audrey Tautou as Coco Chanel. French, subtitles.

Nov. 8, 9, & 12: **"It Might Get Loud"** (Davis Guggenheim, 2008). Documentary about the electric guitar from the point of view of 3 guitar virtuosos: The Edge, Jimmy Page, and Jack White.

Nov. 9: **"It's Always Fair Weather"** (Stanley Donen, 1955) Melancholy musical (with a happy ending) about 3 former war buddies who meet, compare notes, and find that they haven't realized their dreams. Gene Kelly, Cyd Charisse.

Nov. 11 & 12: **"The Good Soldier"** (Lexy Lovell & Michael Uys, 2009). Documentary that stars combat veterans from different American wars who discuss what it means to kill in war.

Nov. 14: **16th Annual Polish Film Festival.** First of 2 days of Polish shorts and feature films shown in Polish, with subtitles. $10 (students with ID & seniors, $6) per film. Today's program begins at 1 p.m. with a FREE screening of 3 short documentaries: ***Gun for Hire*** (Piotr Zarebski, 1997) is about a Polish man who becomes a mercenary for western armies after witnessing Red Army brutality, ***Po-Lin*** (Jolanta Dylewska, 2008) shows archival footage of prewar Poland, and an animated short TBA by Tomek Baginski. Today's features: ***General Nil*** (Ryszard Bugajski, 2009). Historical drama about the final days before Polish general August Emil Fieldorf's execution in 1953. 6 p.m. ***How Much Does the Trojan Horse Weigh?*** (Juliusz Machulski, 2008). Comedy about a woman who wishes she could turn back the clock 13 years and wakes up to find her wish has come true. 9 p.m.

Nov. 15: **16th Annual Polish Film Festival.** See above. Today's program begins at 1 p.m. with a FREE screening of 2 short documentaries: ***Coming Out in Poland*** (Slawomir Grunberg, 2008) is about Polish gays and lesbians who try to assert themselves in the fairly conservative Polish society, and ***Woman Triumphant*** (Basia Myszynski, 2009) is about the American journey of the iconic Polish actress Helena Modjeska. Followed by a talk with Myszynski. Today's features: ***Scratch*** (Michal Rosa, 2008). Bergman-esque drama about a happily married woman who learns that her husband may have committed a horrible deed in the past. 5 p.m. ***Little Moscow*** (Waldemar Krzystek, 2008). Drama set in 1968 about an extramarital affair that is complicated by the volatile relationship between Poland and Czechoslovakia. 7 p.m.

Nov. 15–17 & 19: **"The Baader Meinhof Complex"** (Uli Edel, 2008). Drama set in 1970s Germany about the Baader-Meinhof gang of young communist-inspired terrorists. German, subtitles.

Nov. 16: **"Gigi"** (Vincente Minnelli, 1958). Oscar-winning Lerner & Loewe musical set in turn-of-the-century Paris. Leslie Caron, Maurice Chevalier, Gene Kelly, Cyd Charisse.

Nov. 18: **"Dynasty"** (Warren Miller, 2009). Recognized as the world's premier ski filmmaker, Miller has been making family-oriented ski adventure films for 60 years. He's a major star on the West Coast, where his films draw packed houses for weeklong runs, and the annual Michigan Theater showing usually draws 800 to 1,000 viewers. Tickets $15 (kids age 12 & under, $12) in advance at Sun & Snow Sports (2471 W. Stadium), the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000. 7 p.m.

Nov. 20–30: **"An Education"** (Lone Scherfig, 2009). Coming-of-age drama set in the 60s about an ambitious teen girl who gets involved with a much older man.

Nov. 21: **"In Search of Beethoven"** (Phil Grabsky, 2009). Beethoven documentary, with footage of 60 performances.

Nov. 23: **"West Side Story"** (Robert Wise, Jerome Robbins, 1961). Film version of Leonard Bernstein's Romeo-and-Juliet musical story set in 1950s New York City. Natalie Wood, Richard Beymer, Rita Moreno.

Nov. 25–30: **"Still Walking"** (Hirokazu Koreeda, 2008). Drama about a family reunion 15 years after the eldest son's death. Japanese, subtitles.

Nov. 27: **Warner Bros. cartoons.** Kids age 12 & under, FREE.

Nov. 29: **"Christmas in Connecticut"** (Peter Godfrey, 1945). Romantic comedy about a journalist who writes a housekeeping column then has to pretend she's actually good at housekeeping when her publication decides to let a heroic soldier stay at her farm for the holidays.

Nov. 30: **"Cabaret"** (Bob Fosse, 1972). Stylish, Oscar-hogging film adaptation of the Broadway musical about an American showgirl dangerously dazzled by the sinister sparkle of pre-Nazi Berlin. Liza Minnelli, Joel Grey, Michael York.

Projectorhead/U-M Screen Arts & Cultures. FREE. 615–0445. U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State, 7 p.m.

Nov. 5: **"Lightworks Redux."** Screening of several student films from past U-M Lightworks festivals.

Nov. 12: **"Memories of Agano"** (Sato Makoto, 2004). Documentary about the impact of pollution-caused Minamata Disease on a rural Japanese community. Followed by a talk on **"Abusive Subtitling"** by U-M screen arts and cultures chair Markus Nornes.

Nov. 19: **"24 City"** (Jia Zhangke, 2008). Docufiction about a state-owned factory that becomes a modern apartment complex. Mandarin, subtitles.

Temple Beth Emeth. FREE. 665–4744. 2309 Packard, 1 p.m.

Nov. 10: **"Ushpizin"** (Giddi Dar, 2004). An ultra-Orthodox couple in Jerusalem interpret their houseguests' increasingly boorish behavior as a divine test. Hebrew, subtitles.

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Chinese Documentary Film Series. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A (entrance at the Fishbowl on the east side of the bldg.), 7 p.m. Mandarin, subtitles.

Nov. 14: **"Please Vote for Me"** (Weijun Chen, 2007). In an experiment in democracy, 3rd graders are asked to elect a class monitor, a powerful position traditionally appointed by the teacher. Mandarin & English, subtitles.

U-M Center for Faith and Scholarship. FREE. 668–7421. U-M Campus Chapel, 1236 Washtenaw Ct., 8 p.m.

Nov. 21: **"Lars and the Real Girl"** (Craig Gillespie, 2007). Touching absurdist comedy about a shy man whose friends and family humor him when he introduces a life-size doll as his companion. Ryan Gosling, Patricia Clarkson, Emily Mortimer.

U-M Center for International & Comparative Studies. Free. 764–2268. 1636 SSWB (1080 South University), various times.

Nov. 3: **"I Am from Titov Veles"** (Teona Strugar Mitevska, 2007). Three sisters take desperate steps to escape a dying community. Macedonian, subtitles. 2:30 & 4:30 p.m.

Nov. 10: **"Mutum"** (Sandra Kogut, 2007). A young boy in rural Brazil copes with a disintegrating family and the uncertainties of the adult world. Portuguese, subtitles.

Nov. 17: **"Possible Lives"** (Sandra Gugliotta, 2006). A woman searching for her missing geologist husband in remote Patagonia encounters a man who looks just like him. Spanish, subtitles.

U-M Center for Japanese Studies. FREE. 764–6307. Lorch Hall auditorium (Tappan at Monroe), 7 p.m.

Nov. 6: **"Tokyo Drifter"** (Seijun Suzuki, 1966). Drama about a reformed hit man who repeatedly avoids execution by a rival gang. Japanese, subtitles.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umich.edu/~animania. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 10 a.m.–midnight.

Nov. 14 (tentative): **Con Ja Nai (Not a Convention).** Yearly anime-a-thon, with Japanese animation old and new on 4 screens. Visitors can attend any film for any length of time. Films TBA.

U-M Max Kade House. FREE. 764–5018. Max Kade house (Baits II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7:30–10 p.m. German, subtitles.

Nov. 10: **"Nordwand"** (Philip Stoelzl, 2008). Gripping adventure movie about 2 pals who attempt to become the first to climb the near-vertical north face of the Eiger in the Alps.

Nov. 24: **"Kein Bund fuers Leben"** (Granz Henman, 2007). Comedy about a young man unwillingly conscripted into the army.

U-M Museum of Art. FREE. 764–0395. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State, various times.

Nov. 15 & 17: **"The Power of the Powerless"** (Cory Taylor, 2009). Documentary about communist Czechoslovakia, the 1989 "Velvet Revolution," and current Czech political apathy. 3 p.m. (Nov. 15) & 4 p.m. (Nov. 17).

U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. FREE. 615–8910. 1636 SSWB (1080 South University), various times.

Nov. 1: **"Dekalog po Dekaloga"** (2008). Three documentary films inspired by Krysztof Kieslowski's *Decalogue* series of films about sin in the lives of ordinary Warsaw citizens. Polish, subtitles. **"Teraz Ja"** (Anna Jadowska, 2006). Award-winning drama about a young married woman struggling to reconcile herself to the discrepancies between life and her expectations of it. Polish, subtitles. 2–6 p.m.

Nov. 24: **"Song from the Southern Seas"** (Marat Sarulu, 2008). A darkly comic feud is ignited when a Russian man suspects his son is the result of an affair between his wife and a Kazakh neighbor. Russian, subtitles.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m. *Nov. 11:* **"Latcho Drom"** (Tony Gatlif, 1994). Documentary celebrating Gypsy travels, music, and culture that features the legendary Romanian band Taraf de Haidouks. Romany, subtitles.

Park Hong calls his preoccupation with "the artifice of voice, the voice in drag, masque, ridiculous impersonation." *6:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

★"What's New in Arthritis Treatment": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M internal medicine professor Raymond Yung. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

★Socrates Cafe: Nicola's Books. *Nov. 9 & 23.* All invited to join a philosophical discussion that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. (440) 476–0430.*

★"Traveling in Civil War Kentucky": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Talk by Monroe County Museum System assistant director David Ingall. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★"Twelve Classic Trout Streams in Michigan": Trout Unlimited. Clarkston (MI) writer **Jim DuFresne** discusses his recently updated book. Preceded at 6 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Creekside Bar & Grill, 5827 Jackson Rd. Free. 994–5456.*

★"Surviving an Eating Disorder: From Recognition to Recovery": Center for Eating Disorders. Panel discussion with Miss America 2008 **Kirsten Haglund,** who discusses her struggle with anorexia nervosa. Other panelists include Haglund's mother **Iora Haglund** and local eating disorder activist **Donna Friedman.** Reception follows. *7–8:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Women's Health Center Classroom, 5301 E. Huron River Dr. Free. Preregistration required by emailing info@center4ed.org or by calling 668–8585.*

★"Understanding Medications": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County. Talk by Community Support and Treatment Services medical director Karen Milner and pharmacist Laura Bernard. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★Midori Koga and Lydia Wong: EMU Music Department. These University of Toronto piano professors perform music for 2 pianos, including a new work by Toronto composer Alice Ho. *8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

10 TUESDAY

★22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 3 Tuesday. Today: German-born retired American businessman **Kurt Roberg** discusses his memoir ***A Visa or Your Life!: A Boy's Life and the Odyssey of His Escape from Nazi Germany*** (noon), and novelist **Chris Bohjalian,** author of the Oprah's Book Club selection *Midwives,* reads from his new novel ***Skeletons at the Feast,*** a WW II love story about the bonds between 3 people—a daughter of Prussian aristocrats, a Scottish prisoner of war, and a Wehrmacht corporal—fleeing the advancing Russians. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★"Making Gifts from Plant Materials": Good Thyme Garden Club. Talk by club members Merrill Crockett and Rita Hermann. *10 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 369–8682.*

"The Selling of the American Economy: How Foreign Companies Are Remaking the American Dream": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Lecture by *New York Times* business correspondent **Micheline Maynard** (see 7 p.m. listing below). Second in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10:30–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (members, $35) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $15 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★Noon Lectures: U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. *Nov. 10 & 18.* Talks by visiting scholars. This month's highlight is **"The Queer Histories of Lucretia"** (Nov. 18). For complete schedule, see irwg.research.umich.edu/events. *Noon, 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★Steven Assael: EMU Art Department. Talk by this Brooklyn (NY) painter whose figure paintings range from nudes to elaborately dressed Goths. *6 p.m., EMU Student Center 310A, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–0465.*

★Mothers and More. All moms invited for a **"Dessert Recipe Exchange."** Bring a dessert and 10 copies of the recipe. *7–9 p.m., location TBA. Free. 527–6880.*

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Hawk, I'm Your Brother
(Grades K–6)
Music, dance and puppetry combine to tell this story about a boy who yearns to fly!
November 5, 10 AM and 12:30 PM
November 6, 10 AM and 12:30 PM
November 7, 2 PM

Little Women
(Grades 3–12)
Adapted from the novel by Louisa May Alcott
A family's strength is their love for each other!
December 10, 10 AM and 12:30 PM
December 11, 10 AM and 12:30 PM
December 12, 2 PM
December 13, 2 PM

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★**"Mothers Unedited! Frank Talk about Sending Your Kid to College": Ann Arbor District Library.** Community High School college prep counselor John Boshoven hosts a panel discussion with local mothers who have had children in college. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Perils, Pitfalls, Perks, and Pleasures of Online Dating": Ann Arbor District Library.** Albion College librarian Cheryl Blackwell discusses her experiences with online dating. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–4200.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss ***The Book Thief,*** Markus Zusak's young adult novel set in Nazi Germany and narrated by Death. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**"The Selling of the American Economy: How Foreign Companies Are Remaking the American Dream": Nicola's Books.** *New York Times* senior business correspondent **Micheline Maynard** (see 10:30 a.m. listing above) discusses her acclaimed new book about the benefits of foreign companies, like Toyota, that employ Americans. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"The Girls' Guide to Rocking: How to Start a Band, Get Gigs, and Get Rolling to Rock Stardom": Ann Arbor District Library.** Freelance music and culture critic **Jessica Hopper,** the author of the influential essay "Emo: Where the Girls Aren't" and a 3-time contributor to the annual ***DaCapo's Best of Music Writing,*** discusses her new book. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

Mavis Staples: Avalon Housing Benefit. This legendary gospel, soul, and R&B diva first came to prominence with her father and sisters as a member of—and the most riveting voice in—the Staple Singers gospel and soul vocal quartet. Her subsequent career as an R&B and pop-soul vocalist has been buoyed by the resources of a quintessentially gospel voice that many of her peers—from Bob Dylan to Prince—have found as stirring as any they have ever heard. With its trademark blend of awesome power and shimmering grace, punctuated here and there with a startling growl, her singing almost never fails to convey a revelatory urgency that, at its best, can change the way you listen to music. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $25–$75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

★**Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss Mike Hawke's ***Green Beret Survival Manual.*** *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Washtenaw Ski Touring Club.** A Bivouac representative discusses **winter outdoor clothing.** Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing. *7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 662–SKIS.*

★**"A World of Woes: America at a Crossroads": U-M Ford Presidential Library.** Talk by *National Journal* foreign affairs correspondent **James Kitfield,** winner of this year's Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal, North Campus. Free. 205–0555.*

★**Loose Leaf Readings: Ann Arbor Wordworks.** Open mike for teen poets and writers. The program begins with a reading by a local poet or writer TBA. *7:30 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 622–0460.*

★**"Early Music Concert": EMU Music Department.** EMU organ students and friends perform music from the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Baroque eras. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

11 WEDNESDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: Pulitzer Prize–winning *Washington Post* senior editor **Steve Luxenberg** discusses ***Annie's Ghosts*** (noon), his memoir about his search for the truth about the disabled sister whose existence his mother disclosed only just before her own death, and U-M research scientist emeritus (and former Del Rio co-owner) **Ernie Harburg** discusses his business history ***Liberty, Equality, Consensus, and All That Jazz at the Del Rio Bar.*** 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**Veterans Day Celebration: Concordia University.** Flag ceremonies with patriotic songs and hymns by the Concordia choir. Also, a flyover by the Michigan National Guard 127th Fighter Squadron, a talk by either governor **Jennifer Granholm** or Miss Michigan 2009 **Nicole Blaszczyk,** and a performance of the national anthem by the **338th Army Band** and the Concordia Choir and Wind Ensemble. Reception follows. *11:25 a.m.–noon, Concordia University campus, 4090 Geddes Rd. Free. (888) 734–4237.*

★**Brown Bag Organ Series: U-M School of Music.** Local organists perform works TBA. Bring a bag lunch. Today: **Edward Maki-Schramm.** *12:15 p.m., U-M School of Public Health Community Room, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Meanwhile": U-M School of Art & Design.** U-M art and design professor Jim Cogswell discusses the current exhibit of his work at WCC Gallery One (see Galleries). *4:30 p.m., WCC Bailey Library, Gunder Myran Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 477–8512.*

★**"Museums, Parents, and Science Education: What's Next?": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe.** Talks by U-M psychology professor Pamela Davis-Kean and MSU International Center for the Advancement of Scientific Literacy director Jon Miller. Followed by discussion. Also, Miller gives a talk on **"Museums and the Public Understanding of Science"** on Nov. 12, 5:30–7:30 p.m., at the U-M Exhibit Museum (1109 North University). *5:30–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

★**Curator Talks: U-M Museum of Art.** *Nov. 11 & 22 (different programs).* Today: Jacob Proctor on the current **Heather Rowe** installation. Nov. 22: Carole McNamara on the current exhibit **"The Image Wrought: Historical Photographic Approaches in the Digital Age."** *5:30 p.m. (Nov. 11) & 2 p.m. (Nov. 22), UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**Veterans Day Celebration: Salvation Army.** All veterans invited for a catered dinner and a talk by **Josh Hale,** a Salvation Army representative who just got back from Afghanistan. *Time TBA. Free. Preregistration required. 668–8353.*

Delicatessen Tastings: Zingerman's Delicatessen. *Nov. 11 & 17.* Zingerman's staff and guest food experts discuss and offer taste samples of various gourmet delights. Today: **"Grafton Cheddar Cheese."** Also this month, **"American Sweets"** (Nov. 17). Also, on Nov. 24, 5 p.m., Detroit corned beef king Sy Ginsberg offers a free **"Corned Beef"** tasting and David Sax signs copies of his book ***Save the Deli,*** and on Nov. 3, 5–6 p.m., a free **"Coffee Tasting"** at Zingerman's Coffee Company, 610 Phoenix Dr. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. $20 in advance, $25 at the door, unless otherwise noted. Space limited; reservations required. 663–3354.*

"Heirloom Harvest Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Roadhouse chef Alex Young hosts a dinner showcasing heirloom vegetables from his garden, including tomatoes, beans, possibly corn, and more. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45. Reservations required. 663–3663.*

★**"Circus Jam": Dreamland Theater.** All experienced or aspiring circus performers invited to share tips on the entire range of circus performances, from balloon sculpting and face painting to unicycle riding and juggling. Sale of circus supplies. *7–11 p.m., Dreamland, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 657–2337.*

★**"What Is Waldorf Education?": Rudolf Steiner School.** Talk by veteran Waldorf teacher Martha McDowell. *7 p.m., Steiner, 2775 Newport Rd. Free. 995–4141.*

★**Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Story of a Marriage,*** Andrew Sean Greer's complex, exquisitely written novel about a burdened 50s housewife who meets a stranger with a bizarre offer. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**John Hodgman: Downtown Borders.** This New York–based writer, a regular *Daily Show* contributor (and the PC in the Apple ads), discusses ***More Information Than You Require,*** the sequel to *The Areas of My Expertise,* his kooky parody of an old-timey "compendium of world knowledge" whose tidbits range from "Gambling: The Sport of the Asthmatic Man" to "How to Be a Famous Minor Television Personality." Signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Readings by featured writers, followed by an open mike (sign-up begins at 6:45 p.m.). Today: U-M creative writing lecturer **Cody Walker** *(see review, p. 53),* a widely published poet with a highly regarded debut collection, *Shuffle and Breakdown.* "Walker is unique, no mere trickster but a serious craftsman who blurs the line of demarcation between sober poetry and light verse," says the poet X.J. Kennedy. "Though he sometimes writes in forms usually frivolous—limericks, double dactyls, clerihews—he can do so with dark import." *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"World War II: The Homefront": U-M Library.** Local pianist **William Bolcom** (also a Pulitzer Prize–winning composer) and his wife, mezzo-soprano (and U-M cabaret professor) **Joan Morris,** are joined by the delightful New York tenor **Bobby White** in a program in the style of WW II radio shows. Also, performances by some of Morris's students and commentary by **Hazen Schumacher,** the longtime host of the locally produced former public radio program *Jazz Revisited.* Refreshments. Bolcom, Morris, White, and Schumacher sign copies of their new CD

Someone Ta… events: At 4… Library arch… clips from … News Servi… during WW… of *The Life* … Field's 198… II who did… with the Be… *We Win: Th… War II* (see … *920 North …*

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Bill McKib… mate change… culture, and… *Deep Econ… the Durable…* Center. *8 p.…* *$20; studen… 3186, ext 11…*

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★**"Fighting … Abuses in t… for Ethical …** by National … Charles Ker… cussions. 2–… *rium, 900 O… Ypsilanti. Fr…*

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Someone Talked: Memories of World War II. Related events: At 4 p.m. on Nov. 17, U-M Bentley Historical Library archivist Brian Williams discusses and shows clips from ***Michigan on the March,*** a 1944 U-M News Service film about life on the U-M campus during WW II, and at 7 p.m. on Nov. 19, a screening of ***The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter,*** Connie Field's 1980 documentary about women during WW II who did traditional men's jobs. In conjunction with the Bentley Historical Library exhibit ***United We Win: The University of Michigan During World War II*** (see Galleries). *7 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library, 920 North University. Free. 615–4801.*

★**"Solar Panels": ARROW Communications Association.** Club member Arun Kumar discusses the latest developments in solar technology. Preceded at 7 p.m. by "rag chewing and socializing." *7:30 p.m., Washtenaw County Red Cross, 4624 Packard. Free. 930–6564.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Local nurse Ann Garvin leads a discussion of Drew Faust's ***This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

Keb' Mo': The Ark. This veteran L.A. singer-guitarist plays original contemporary blues with a strong traditional feel, along with covers of Robert Johnson and other country blues classics. *All Music Guide* reviewer (and local singer-songwriter) Steve Leggett calls his latest CD, *Suitcase,* a "suite of songs dedicated to the emotional baggage everyone carries with them as they plow through increasingly complicated lives in search of peace, love, and some measure of personal redemption." *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $26–$50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Bill McKibben: Ecology Center. Talk by this climate change activist, a renowned writer on business, culture, and the environment whose books include *Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future.* Proceeds benefit the Ecology Center. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. $25 (members, $20; students, $10) in advance and at the door. 761–3186, ext 110.*

★**Harpsichord Recital: U-M School of Music.** Students of U-M harpsichord professor Edward Parmentier play works by Byrd, Couperin, Sweelinck, Bach, and others. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Blanche Anderson Moore Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Campus Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Grad student conductors direct this ensemble of nonmusic majors in Shostakovich's Symphony no. 5 and Elgar's Cello Concerto, with cellist and CSO concerto competition winner **Adrienne Cheng.** *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Fujii Marimba Trio: U-M School of Music.** Performance by this Japanese trio led by **Mutsuko Fujii,** a noted marimba player who frequently collaborates with the well-known composer Tan Dun. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

12 THURSDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: Emmy-winning stand-up comic **Carol Leifer** discusses her memoir ***When You Lie about Your Age, the Terrorists Win*** (noon), and Edgar-winning novelist **David Liss** (7:30 p.m.) reads from his new historical thriller set in 18th-century London, ***The Devil's Company.*** 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m.

★**"Rachel Carson, Revisited": Women's National Farm & Garden Association.** Local storyteller Trudy Bulkley discusses this early 20th-century marine biologist whose writing is credited with advancing the environmental movement. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 622–0052.*

"Flower Arranging": Ikebana International Chapter 183. A club member TBA leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $10 (members, $5) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

★**"Fighting to End Child Labor and Sweatshop Abuses in the Global Economy": EMU Students for Ethical and Participatory Education.** Talk by National Labor Committee executive director Charles Kernaghan. Followed by small group discussions. *2–5 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood (off Washtenaw) EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 971–8607.*

★**"Addressing Poverty in Troubled Times: the U.S., North America, and the World": U-M Ford School of Public Policy/St. Mary Student Parish Gabriel Richard Lectures.** Talk by Harvard University Kennedy School of Government dean Mary Jo Bane. *4 p.m., SSWB Educational Conference Center, 1080 South University. Free. 615–3893, 663–0557.*

★**"The Growth of Michigan's Film Industry": Ann Arbor Ad Club.** Panel discussion with *Renaissance Man* screenwriter (and U-M screen arts & cultures lecturer) Jim Burnstein, *Michigan Movie Magazine* founder and editor Chris Aliapoulios, and Tina Heaton, publicist for the locally filmed feature *Youth in Revolt.* Moderated by WWJ reporter Ron Dewey. *6–7 p.m., Ann Arbor Spark, 330 E. Liberty. $35 (members, free; students, $10). 332–5369.*

"Belgian Ales": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about 2 dozen of the finest Belgian and Belgian-style ales available in the U.S, from malty Trappists, traditional sour Lambics, and Flemish browns to aged, high-gravity ales and crazy concoctions made with fruits and spices. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★**"Winemaker Dinner": Vinology.** A multi-course dinner with a talk on wine by Chateau des Karantes (France) winemaker Jean-Jacques Fertal. *7 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. $75 (table of 4, $260). Reservations required. 222–9841.*

★**"Longevity": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local family nurse practitioner Gaia Kile. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"AADL.org": Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on introduction to less obvious features of the AADL website, including the advantages of using My Account for placing holds, how to navigate the research tabs, and how and why to tag items. *7–9 p.m., AADL training room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 327–4555.*

★**"Washtenaw County Jail: Critical Issues": Ann Arbor District Library/Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters.** Panel discussion with sheriff Jerry Clayton, prosecutor Brian Mackie, county commissioner Barbara Bergman, and Washtenaw County jail diversion program psychiatrist Christine Negendank. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Relations between the U.S. and Greece in the Early 20th Century": U-M Modern Greek Program 1st Annual Demetrios and Demetra Partalis Kales Lecture.** Lecture by Kent state University history professor emeritus Victor Papacosma. *7 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 764–0360.*

★**"An Evening with Great Pianists of the Past (1904–1940)": EMU Music Department.** Dennis Ferrarra hosts a concert of historic recorded performances by great pianists. *7 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**"Frozen": U-M Basement Arts.** *Nov. 12–14.* Rebecca Spooner directs U-M students in Bryony Lavery's drama about a meeting between a psychiatrist, a serial killer, and the mother of a child he murdered 25 years earlier. Lavery "knows how to light up the darkest places without trivializing or undermining her subject," says a *Guardian* review. *7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu*

"The Marriage of Figaro": U-M Opera Theatre. *Nov. 12–15.* Robert Swedberg directs U-M opera students in Mozart's popular opera buffa noted for its stirring, lovely melodies. Bored by his wife, Count Almaviva eyes her maid Susanna, who is engaged to his valet Figaro. When the count decides to exercise his feudal rights, Figaro, Susanna, and others are thrown into frenzied attempts to thwart his lecherous scheme. Italian, supertitles. Kenneth Kiesler conducts the University Symphony Orchestra. *7:30 p.m., Power Center. $18 & $24 (students, $9) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office and at the door. 764–2538.*

★**"Super Smash Brothers Brawl": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to compete in a tournament of this popular video game. Prizes. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** This adventurous music student ensemble plays a program of entirely improvised music drawing on an array of influences from classical and jazz to pop, folk, and world music. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Dynamic Stage Productions. *Nov. 12–15.* This area theater company presents William Finn's Tony-winning musical comedy about 6 teenage outsiders who vie for the county spelling bee championship. Most performances involve audience volunteers who join in the spelling bee on stage. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 at*

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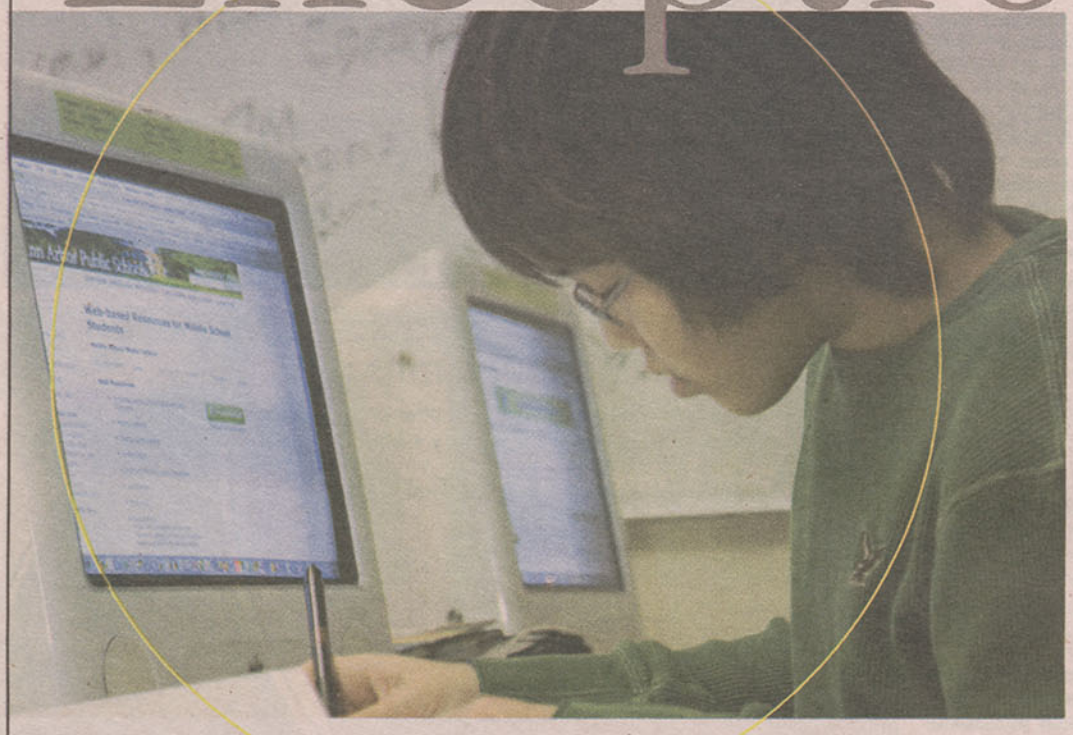

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Nationalists will proudly point to the great American orchestras—the grand symphonies of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, the brash bands of Cleveland and Chicago, or the sophisticated ensembles of San Francisco and Los Angeles. Eurocentrics will politely nominate the symphonies of London, Paris, Amsterdam, or Dresden, while the Russians will no doubt make the case for the orchestras of St. Petersburg or Moscow.

In the end, it really all comes down to two orchestras: the Wiener Philharmoniker (Vienna Philharmonic) and Berliner Philharmoniker (Berlin Philharmonic). Both have long and storied histories playing and often premiering the greatest works in the repertoire under the greatest conductors of the past 150 years. And both have distinctive tones: the super-suave Viennese orchestra's is rich, smooth, and creamy, while the super-virtuoso Berlin orchestra's is crisp, polished, and powerful.

But the big difference is that while the Wiener always has been the orchestra of the Vienna State Opera with a sideline as a symphonic orchestra, the Berliner has always been an exclusively symphonic orchestra, and there's a bright clarity to its playing and a deep familiarity in its performances that not even the Austrian orchestra can top. Plus, despite the undoubted virtuosity of the New York, London, St. Petersburg, and Viennese orchestras, nothing can touch the sheer skills of the Berlin band. At its best, every piece it plays sounds like it was written for it.

For the first great orchestral concert of the season, the UMS is presenting the Berliner Philharmoniker on Tuesday, November 17, under new music director Simon Rattle. When the Germans were last here in 2001, they were led by Claudio Abbado. In his decade with the orchestra, the Italian conductor had sharpened its ensemble by bringing in younger players while scrupulously maintaining the tonal opulence of his own predecessor, Herbert von Karajan.

This time, the first unknown for local audiences is the repertoire: Brahms' Third and Fourth Symphonies plus Schoenberg's *Accompanying Music to a Film Scene*. While Brahms' tragic Fourth is often performed hereabouts, the heroic Third has, to my knowledge, been played here only once in the past thirty-three years. As for the Schoenberg piece, the number of Ann Arborites who can hum its big tune probably can be counted on one hand.

The second unknown is Rattle himself, who's making his Ann Arbor debut. EMI has just released the English conductor's recordings of Brahms' four symphonies with the German orchestra, but a day's listening has yet to leave a vivid impression. Sure, the playing is fabulous, but the conducting, while technically impeccable, seems somewhat cool. We'll see if Rattle heats up in performance.

—James Leonard

dynamicstageproductions.com and at the door. 480–2787.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Bobby Tessel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 12–14.* Local debut of this West Coast comic whose act features a steady barrage of off-the-wall jokes about ordinary life delivered in a laid-back style. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

13 FRIDAY

Annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon: Ladies' Literary Club of Ypsilanti. *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Ladies' Literary Club, 218 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. Wheelchair-accessible. Free admission; lunch, $12.50. 483–1453, 426–4759.*

★22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center. See 3 Tuesday. Today: **Nick Dubin** discusses his practical guide ***Asperger Syndrome and Anxiety: A Guide to Successful Stress Management*** (noon). 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *9:30–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

★"Music and Motion": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids from babies through age 5 (accompanied by an adult) invited to learn about conducting from Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra music director Arie Lipsky, hear a story from local early childhood educator Gari Stein, and dance to live music by local pianist Kathryn Goodson. *9:30–10 & 10:30–11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Annual Fall Bazaar: Bethlehem United Church of Christ. Lunch available (11:30 a.m., $9). *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Bethlehem UCC, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free admission. 665–6149.*

20th Annual Gaming Convention: U•Con. *Nov. 13–15.* 400–600 competitors are expected to turn out to play a wide spectrum of tabletop games, from board games of all kinds (including European family-oriented board games) and role-playing games (including some RPGA-sanctioned events) to collectible card games and miniaturized simulations of historical and fictional battlefields. A "Kid U•Con" area features a variety of games and activities for kids. Participants also are invited to bring in games to play in an open gaming area. Representatives of game design companies are on hand to discuss and demonstrate their games. Also, a dealers' room with sale and demos of games. Registration begins tonight at 5 p.m. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *10 a.m.–midnight (Nov. 13 & 14) & 9 a.m.–7 p.m. (Nov. 15), various Michigan Union locations. Weekend pass $20 in advance, $25 at the door; $10 (Fri.) & $15 (Sat. & Sun.) daily admission at the door only. Also, $3 to play most games. Advance registration available on-line at ucon-gaming.org and by mail to U•Con Gaming Convention, P.O. Box 4491, Ann Arbor 48106–4491. 930–6363.*

★"Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition Ride Around Town": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. All invited to join a bike ride in a figure–8 loop around downtown. *6 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division. Free. 975–1989.*

★Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library. *Nov. 13–15.* Video game tournaments. Today: **Rock Revolution Rock Band** and **Dance Dance Revolution** for all ages. Also this month: **Super Smash Brothers** and **Mario Kart Championship Series Round 1** (Nov. 14) for kids in grades 6–12 and **Mario Kart Wii** (Nov. 15) for all ages. *6–9 p.m. (Nov. 13), noon–5 p.m. (Nov. 14), & 1–5 p.m. (Nov. 15), AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"2nd Annual Lights Out Invitational": A-Square Fight Club. *Nov. 13–15.* Tournament featuring top amateur boxers from the U.S. and Canada in various age divisions, from bantams (ages 9 & 10) to adult (age 17 & over). *6–9 p.m. (Nov. 13), 1–6 p.m. (Nov. 14), & 1–5 p.m. (Nov. 15), 138 Jackson Plaza (off eastbound Jackson just west of Wagner). $10. 585–8823.*

"17th Annual Save a Heart Celebration of Wine and Food": U-M Mott Children's Hospital. Food from local restaurants and over 100 wines. Also, a silent auction and live jazz by a band TBA. A benefit for the Mott Congenital Heart Center. *6:30–9 p.m., Michigan League. $60 in advance at umsaveaheart.org, $75 at the door. 936–9134.*

U-M Women's Volleyball vs. Purdue. The U-M also has matches this month against **Indiana** (Nov. 14), **MSU** (Nov. 18), and **Minnesota** (Nov. 20). *7 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (age 17 & under, $3). 763–2159.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Ball St. The U-M also has games this month against **Marquette** (Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m.) and **Southern Mississippi** (Nov. 19, 7 p.m.). *7 p.m., Crisler Arena. $3 (youths under age 18, $1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.*

★FEAR: Neutral Zone. Display of artwork by teen artists and freaky music spun by teen DJs. *7–10 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★Student Songwriter Showcase: The Ark. Performances by U-M student singer-songwriters. *7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 761–1451.*

★Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to join a discussion of James Howard Kunstler's ***Long Emergency: Surviving the End of Oil, Climate Change, and Other Converging Catastrophes of the 21st Century.*** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★Laura Kasischke: Waters Place Borders. This nationally acclaimed local poet and novelist discusses ***In a Perfect World,*** her new novel about domestic difficulties set against a backdrop of a pandemic flu. "From its haunting opening image to its riveting end, this is a tale of beauty, resilience, love, sacrifice, and even grace found in the most unlikely of places," says writer Katrina Kittle. Signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997–8884.*

Signe Karlstrom Festival of Nordic Arts 2009: U-M Scandinavian Studies/Residential College Players. *Nov. 13–15 (different locations).* Three days of music, theater, and dance from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark, and Iceland. Today: **"Nordic Myths."** U-M Residential College drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs U-M students in scenes, with musical accompaniment, from Ibsen's ***The Lady from the Sea,*** a drama about a woman who must choose between her husband and a man to whom she was once engaged. Also, Finnish choreographer Silva Laukkanen and local dancer Suzanne Willets Brooks, accompanied by vocalist Amy McKenna and Laurel Premo on the Nordic folk fiddle, perform ***Kolme Kuuta,*** Laukkanen's dance inspired by the Finnish epic *The Kalevala*. Tonight's program is preceded at 6 p.m. by a talk on Ibsen by U-M English lecturer Kirsten Herold. *7 p.m., RC Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (students, $3). 276–4906.*

"All Childish Things, Episodes I-III": EMU Theater Department. *Nov. 13–15.* Shannon Ferrante directs a staged reading of local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's 2009 New American Play Award–winning trilogy of drama about 3 lifelong friends, linked by a mutual obsession with *Star Wars*, who are still struggling with the nature and meaning of adulthood as they enter middle age. Each night is a different play in the trilogy. Adult language. *7 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Tickets $7 in advance and at the door. 487–1221.*

★"Frozen": U-M Basement Arts. See 12 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

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★**"Music Therapy": Older Lesbians Organizing.** All lesbians invited to hear a talk by a speaker TBA. *7:30 p.m., WRAP office (upstairs), 319 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.*

★**"Race and Reconciliation in Our Community: A Community-Based Contribution to the National Conversation on Race": Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation.** Talk by human rights activist **Nontombi Naomi Tutu,** Desmond Tutu's daughter. On Nov. 14, Tutu is part of a panel discussion following a free screening of ***Long Day's Journey Into Night*** (7:30 p.m., WCC Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr.), Sidney Lumet's 1962 adaptation of Eugene O'Neill's play about a dysfunctional family that stars Katherine Hepburn, Ralph Richardson, and Jason Robards. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 663–0401.*

★**Ensemble Chaconne: Concordia University.** This noted Massachusetts-based trio—Renaissance flutist Peter Bloom, viola da gambist Carol Lewis, and Renaissance lutenist Olav Chris Henriksen—is joined by acclaimed mezzo-soprano **Pamela Dellal** in **"Measure for Measure: The Music of Shakespeare's Plays,"** a program of English Renaissance music. The music is preceded at 2:30 p.m. by a lecture-demo on the program. *7:30 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes Rd. Free. 995–4612.*

Cultural Show: U-M Indian American Students Association. U-M students present an evening of old and new Indian culture, with Indian dances performed in traditional regalia. Also, a performance by U-M coed a cappella ensemble **58 Greene.** This very popular show usually sells out in advance. *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Annie Get Your Gun": Skyline High School. *Nov. 13–15, 20, & 21.* Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in the popular Irving Berlin musical, a fictionalization of the life of sharpshooter Annie Oakley, a country girl and crack shot who joins the traveling Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and falls in love with a fellow entertainer who's intimidated by her superior shooting skills. Berlin's score is one of his finest and includes "There's No Business like Show Business," "You Can't Get a Man with a Gun," and the humorous competitive duet "Anything You Can Do (I Can Do Better)." *7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tickets $8 (students, $6) in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. 994–6515.*

"The Man Who Came to Dinner": Huron High School Players. *Nov. 13, 14, 20, & 21.* Huron High School students present George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart's enduring 1939 comedy about an egomaniacal celebrity who moves in with a Midwestern family after he falls and breaks his leg on their doorstep. His oversize personality and the ensuing publicity as he prolongs his stay end up upsetting not only the household, but the entire town. *7:30 p.m., Huron High School New Theater, 2727 Fuller Rd. Tickets $8 (students & seniors, $6) in advance and at the door. 994–2095.*

"Oklahoma!": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 7 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

2nd Friday Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. With live music. For experienced dancers. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $10. (248) 288–4737.*

★**"Dido and Aeneas": Greenhills School.** Greenhills Upper School Chorus and Chamber Orchestra present a semistaged performance of Henry Purcell's one-act opera based on Virgil's mythical story about the torrid, tragic love affair between the Carthaginian queen and the Trojan exile destined to found Rome. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 205–4065.*

Los Guitarristas: Kerrytown Concert House. This Chicago-based guitar quartet, led by Chilean guitarist Alfonso Chacon, plays original arrangements of classic Latin American folkloric and popular music. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Mary McCaslin: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). This veteran folksinger specializes in songs that evoke the romance of the American Dream or comment on its decline, including "The Bramble and the Rose," a song she cowrote with her late husband, Jim Ringer. Her performances and recordings also feature arresting acoustic interpretations of pop classics like "The Wayward Wind," Sam Cooke's "Cupid," and the Beatles' sublime "Things We Said Today." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Romeo and Juliet": Blackbird Theatre Academy. Jamie Weeder directs area teen actors in a staged reading of Shakespeare's vividly poetic love story, a romantic tragedy about 2 impetuous young lovers destroyed by the intransigence of their feuding families, their own mistakes, and some incredibly bad timing. *8 p.m., Blackbird Theatre, 1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). $20 (seniors, $15; students, $10) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org and at the door. 332–3848.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Dynamic Stage Productions. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m..

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"The Marriage of Figaro": U-M Opera Theatre. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Bobby Tessel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

14 SATURDAY

23rd Annual Saline Craft Show: Saline Community Education. More than 230 vendors. Concessions, bake sale, and raffle. *8 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple Rd., Saline. $3 admission. 429–5922.*

★**Restoration Workday: Stewards of Shanghai Prairie.** All invited to help remove invasive shrubs from this prairie remnant near the St. Joe's hospital grounds. Snacks. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes. Bring loppers and small saws if you have them. *9 a.m.–1 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, meet at the picnic area parking lot behind the hospital on the north side of McAuley Dr. across from the staff parking lot. Preregistration requested by emailing aunitafl@umich.edu or calling 668–6354.*

★**Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum.** *Nov. 14 & 21.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Nov. 14), 1610 Washington Hts. & Matthaei (Nov. 21), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647–7600.*

Chili Open: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Both players hit every shot from the spot of the best ball of their twosome. Open to all golfers; no handicaps. Rain or shine. *9 a.m., Leslie Park Golf Course, 2120 Traver Rd. $60 per person (includes greens fee, continental breakfast, chili & chili dog lunch, & prizes). Preregistration required. 794–6245.*

★**Fall Chore Day: Neighborhood Senior Services.** Volunteers needed to devote 2–4 hours to work in groups of 2–7 people to assist with assorted chores for frail and homebound elderly people in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, from checking smoke alarms and washing windows to putting up storm windows to raking and cleaning yards. The chores are offered free, but seniors who use the service are asked to help defray some of the costs if they can afford to. Bring rakes and work gloves; some equipment available. Rain date: Nov. 15. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., St. Joseph's Hospital Senior Health Bldg., 5361 McAuley Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. Preregistration required. To volunteer or request this service, go to nssweb.org or call 712–7259.*

★**"Crooked Lake Trail Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members on a hike of 6–7 miles. Wear hiking books and bring water and snacks. *10 a.m., meeting location TBA. Free. 756–5362.*

Annual Holiday Sale: Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 996–8601.*

Kids Crafts: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. *Nov. 14 & 21.* For kids ages 6–12. Today: apple tasting and a chance to make a dried apple-cranberry garland to take home and hang outdoors for the birds. Nov. 21: A chance to make a Thanksgiving table bouquet, cook fruit sauces, grind wheat and corn, make a recipe book, and learn how to make rolls. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $5 materials fee. Preregistration required. 647–7600.*

★**"Recycled Bird Feeder": Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** Bring an empty plastic pop bottle or milk carton to make a winter bird feeder. Starter seed provided. Followed by guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. *10 a.m.–noon, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

2nd Annual Health and Wellness Fair: Ann Arbor Jaycees. Health and fitness exhibits, a sale of health-related items, and a talk (1 p.m.), by WXYZ-TV (channel 7) health and fitness expert **Peter Neilsen.** *11 a.m.–4 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $2 (kids age 5 & under, free). 913–9629.*

"GPS Geocaching": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Participants in this family-oriented program take a ramble through fields and woods using a global positioning system and their problem-solving skills to find several hidden treasures. Bring your own GPS or use one of Leslie's. *1–3 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $8 (family, $30). 997–1553.*

★**Barrie Summy: Aunt Agatha's.** This Canadian-bred California writer discusses ***I So Don't Do Mysteries,*** her debut young adult mystery about a 7th grader who is contacted by the ghost of her mother, who has flunked out of an afterlife police academy

Tobias Delius and Georg Graewe

Old friends in a new duo setting

Many years ago, *New Yorker* jazz writer Whitney Balliett wrote that jazz was "the sound of surprise," but in much of today's mainstream this phrase has become a bit moldy, as tradition and homage have taken the place of making it new. Yet improvised music continues to thrive in infinite variety, particularly in Europe, which is home to many different stylistic centers, each with its own emphasis but also full of cross-fertilization and cooperation. On November 24, Kerrytown Concert House presents an evening of such music by two very different players whose paths have crossed over the years, Dutch saxophonist and clarinetist Tobias Delius and German pianist Georg Graewe.

Delius has a complex history: born in England, raised in Germany and Mexico, he is one of the main players on the multifaceted Amsterdam scene, often playing with the Instant Composers Pool (ICP) orchestra, as a sideman in various groups, and as leader of his own trio and quartet. Although he likes to explore the outer reaches of modernity, he is also a serious student of the history of the tenor saxophone, as much enamored of the sophisticated swing harmonies of Coleman Hawkins or the down-home funk of Gene Ammons as of the extroverted avant screams of Albert Ayler or Frank Wright. He loves to explore the seemingly infinite tonal potential of the tenor saxophone, from subtone low notes to *altissimo* cries, sometimes loud, sometimes very soft. But no matter how abstract his compositions and improvisations become, underneath it all lurks a warm-hearted romanticism and a love of melody. And his idiosyncratic clarinet playing can take you all the way back to the days of the Original Dixieland Jazz Band, albeit skewed by a surrealist filter.

Graewe is an eclectic, form-shifting musician, with roots in both modern classical and rock music, who performs in a bewildering range of combinations, from solo to large orchestral contexts. He has led very different groups, some dedicated to interpreting his compositions, others exploring total improvisation, including a quintet that includes Delius. One of his finest long-lasting trios includes percussionist Gerry Hemingway and cellist Ernst Reijseger, who is Delius's colleague in the ICP. Their splendid 1999 CD *Counterfactuals* was recorded during a concert in Kerrytown. Graewe is a technically accomplished pianist who can be strict, precise, and steely in his expression, but also shares with Delius a quirky sense of humor that can enliven his playing when least expected.

Delius and Graewe share a love of exploration that seeks to find new means of expression in ways that reformulate the past without crass homage. They have played Ann Arbor in various groupings but never in the challenging duo setting.

—Piotr Michalowski

and needs her daughter's help to make things right. Signing. *1:30 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.*

★**"The Image Wrought: Historical Photographic Approaches in the Digital Age": U-M Museum of Art.** *Nov. 14 & 28.* Docent-led tours of the current exhibit. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"So You Want to Buy a Telescope?": U-M Exhibit Museum.** Exhibit Museum staff are joined by members of the University Lowbrow Astronomers for a program on telescope basics, the pros and cons of different kinds of telescopes, and telescope accessories. *2–4 p.m., 2009 Ruthven Museums, 1109 North University at Geddes Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 764–0478.*

★**"Representing Native Americans": Ann Arbor District Library/U-M Native American Studies.** Talks by MSU American culture professor Patrick LeBeau, author of *Rethinking Michigan Indian History,* and Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American History curator Rayna Green. *2–4 p.m., AADL meeting room (4th floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555, 763–1460.*

★**University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *Nov. 14 & 21.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments, including the Peach Mountain Observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *5 p.m.–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

Team USA Under-18 vs. Green Bay Ramblers. The Ann Arbor–based USA Hockey national development team plays this U.S. Hockey League rival. Team USA Under-18 also has USHL matches this month against **Chicago Steel** (Nov. 15), **Tri-City Storm** (Nov. 21), and **Fargo Force** (Nov. 22, 3 p.m.). Team USA Under-17 takes on **Tri-City Storm** (Nov. 20) and **Fargo Force** (Nov. 21, 3 p.m.). *7 p.m. unless otherwise noted, Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $12 (seniors, students, & children, $6; kids under 5, free). 327–9251.*

★**"All about Owls": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner gives a slide-illustrated talk, followed by a hike to try calling owls. *7–9 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 971–6337.*

Signe Karlstrom Festival of Nordic Arts 2009: U-M Scandinavian Studies/Residential College Players. See 13 Friday. Tonight: **"Nordic Romance."** Violinist Paul Lundin, pianist Angelina Pashmakova, and cellist Katri Ervamaa perform Finnish and Norwegian chamber music from the National Romantic era, including Grieg's Sonata for Violin and Piano in F Major, Sibelius's Violin Pieces, and Leevi Madetoja's Piano Trio. Also, at 10 a.m. & noon, **"Magic Carpet: Nordic Weave"** ($15 per family), a program of Nordic music for families with kids age 2 & over. *7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10 & $20 (students, $5) includes an afterglow with Scandinavian foods. 276–4906.*

"All Childish Things, Episodes I-III": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Frozen": U-M Basement Arts.** See 12 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Annie Get Your Gun": Skyline High School. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Oklahoma!": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 7 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Man Who Came to Dinner": Huron High School Players. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Yarns: Stories That Weave the Web of Life": Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. *Nov. 14 & 15 (different locations).* Area storytellers present a storytelling program, interwoven with Celtic harp music for adults & youth age 14 & over (today) and for families with kids age 4 & over (Nov. 15). *7:30 p.m., Genesis of Ann Arbor (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard at Eastover. $10 (Nov. 14) at the door only, free (Nov. 15). 665–4312.*

Spencer Baily & Friends: First United Methodist Church Wesley Foundation. Folk-rock standards and originals by this ad-hoc local ensemble led by singer-songwriter Baily. Proceeds benefit the local homeless shelter for families, Alpha House. *7:30 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Donation. 662–4536.*

Women's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Julie Skadsem directs this ensemble of nonmusic majors in David MacIntyre's Ave Maria, Gwyneth Walker's setting of Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar," Victor Paranjoti's "Dravidian Dithyramb," and more. The choir is joined by the **Brownell Middle School (Grosse Pointe) choir** in Elizabeth Alexander's "If You Can Walk You Can Dance." Also, Carolyn Gross directs the Brownell choir in a program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $15 (students with ID, $5) in advance at wgctickets@umich.edu and at the door. 764–0594.*

Yasmin Levy: University Musical Society. This up-and-coming Israeli singer-songwriter has been called "the next world music superstar." Her songs mix influences from Ladino and flamenco to Middle Eastern and other Mediterranean idioms. An *fRoots* review of her 2007 album *Mano Suave* calls it "a deep pool of exquisite yearning and heartbreak." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$40 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. *8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, 5665 Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial, Dexter. $8. 996–8359.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $5. 822–2120.*

John Latini: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Acoustic rock-based originals by this popular veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, winner of the 2008 Detroit Blues Challenge. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 (couples, $15) suggested donation. 327–0270.*

"The Solo Guitar of Ken Aldcroft": Canterbury House. Toronto guitarist Aldcroft plays a mix of electric blues, modern jazz, and Derek Bailey-inspired improvisation. Opening act is the local improvised jazz duo of violinist **Mike Khoury** and percussionist **Ben Hall.** *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students, $5). 761–3162.*

"Brahms & Friends": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in Prokofiev's *Overture on Hebrew Themes,* Bizet's Symphony no. 1 in C Major, and Brahms' Piano Concerto no. 2 with piano soloist **Anton Nel.** *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $6–$49 (discounts for students & seniors) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, suite 470), at a2so.com, and at the door. 994–4801.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Dynamic Stage Productions. See 12 Thursday. Time 3 & 8 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Marriage of Figaro": U-M Opera Theatre. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Bobby Tessel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Saturday Social Dance": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. A variety of vintage dances to recorded music. No partner necessary. *3:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $5. 213–0537.*

15 SUNDAY

★**22nd Annual Jewish Book Festival: Jewish Community Center.** See 3 Tuesday. Today: award-winning essayist **Debra Darvick** discusses her children's book ***I Love Jewish Faces*** (10 a.m.), and freelance journalist **Bruce Feiler,** author or the best-selling ***Walking the Bible,*** discusses ***America's Prophet: Moses and the American Story*** (12:30 p.m.), his exploration of the role of the Exodus story in American history. 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

22nd Annual Collectible Teddy Bear Show and Sale: Bright Star Promotions. *9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.,*

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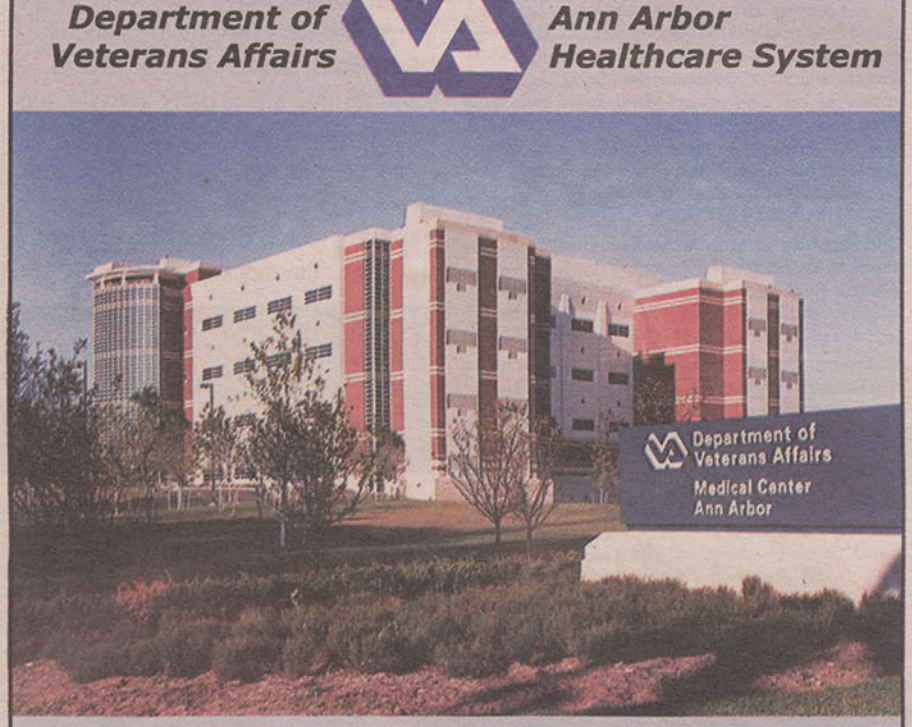

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Former POW Program	(734) 973-9345
National Suicide Lifeline	(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom Returning Veterans' Program	(734) 845-3787

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Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $6 (kids ages 3–12, $2). (502) 423–STAR.

★**"Cedar Lake Esker Outing": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Local outdoorsman Barry Lonik leads a 4-mile hike. *10 a.m., Cedar Lake Recreation Center, Cedar Lake Rd. (off Cavanaugh Lake Rd, ½ mile west of Pierce Rd. north from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. 477–5715.*

★**"Crooked Lake Hike": Washtenaw Ski Touring Club.** Club member Carole Hann leads a 5-mile hike. *10 a.m., meet at the Silver Lake parking lot, Silver Hill Rd., north off Dexter-Townhall Rd. (1 mile north off North Territorial). Free. 662–SKIS.*

"New Balance Girls on the Run 5K." Noncompetitive 5-km run and 100-yard dash for kids age 7 & under. T-shirts, medals, and goody bags for the first 1,000 runners. *10 a.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Campus, 5320 Elliot Dr., Ypsilanti. $15 (kids dash, free) in advance by Nov. 13 at girslontherunsemi.org/events/GOTR-events.php; $20 day of race. 8 a.m. registration. girlsontherunsemi.org*

★**"Amigurumi Happy Fun!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Hands-on introduction to the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys, for adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *1–4 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room. Free. 327–8301.*

Open House Bazaar: Palestinian Aid Society. *2–7 p.m., 4148 Spring Lake Blvd. (south off W. Ellsworth). Free admission. 747–6865.*

"Euchre for Cheaters Tournament": 826michigan Fund-Raiser. 2-person teams play euchre for donations. The more money teams raise, the more "cheats" they earn. Michigan-themed prizes. Spectators welcome. *2–6 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free admission. To register, email angela@826michigan.org. 761–3463.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All children and their parents or grandparents invited for contra and square dancing with live music. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $12 per family. 769–1052.*

★**"Ann Arbor Railroad": Washtenaw County Historical Society.** Talk by local attorney Dan McClary. *2–4 p.m., Glacier Hills Retirement Community Hanson Room, 1200 Earhart. Free. 662–9092.*

★**Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin: Barnes & Noble.** This Detroit-area fiction writer and poet reads from her award-winning children's ghost story ***The Cornstalks Are Whispering.*** Followed by a Q&A. Signing. *2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Yarns: Stories That Weave the Web of Life": Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** See 14 Saturday. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": Dynamic Stage Productions. See 12 Thursday. Time 2 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"The Marriage of Figaro": U-M Opera Theatre. See 12 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Oklahoma!": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild. See 7 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"Annie Get Your Gun": Skyline High School. See 13 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

★**Campus Band: U-M School of Music.** John Pasquale conducts this ensemble of nonmusic majors in James Barnes' "Yorkshire Ballad," Alfred Reed's *Armenian Dances,* Brahms' "Blessed Are They," Ticheli's "Nitro," Arnold's *Four Scottish Dances,* no. 3 from Clifton Williams' *Symphonic Dances,* and Malcolm Arnold's *Four Scottish Dances* and *Prelude, Siciliano, and Rondo. 3 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"All Childish Things, Episodes I-III": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 3 p.m.

"A Puppet History of Ypsilanti": Dreamland Theater. *Nov. 15, 22, & 29.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents its kid-friendly marionette and shadow puppet show about Ypsilanti history, from the formation of the Great Lakes to the founding of the Ypsilanti Underwear Company in 1904. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

The Chenille Sisters: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the symphony in a family concert featuring this popular local vocal trio. Singer-songwriters Cheryl Dawdy, Connie Huber, and Grace Morand are known for their breathtakingly precise and resonant vocal harmonies, impish playfulness, and delightfully eclectic repertoire. Today they draw on their repertoire of kid-oriented songs, including a lot of interactive material, to the accompaniment of a full orchestra. Also, the local song-and-dance team of young twins **Ariel & Zoey** premiere Lansing songwriter David Barrett's "Build Your Dreams Slowly." Preceded at 2:30 p.m. in the lobby by a "string instrument petting zoo" and a chance to make your own instrument to play along with the show. *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $15 (kids, $6) in advance at the AASO office (200 E. Huron, suite 470), a2so.com, and (if available) at the door. 994–4801.*

Michigan Baroque Ensemble: Academy of Early Music. This area duo of soprano **Linda Munch** and harpsichordist **Diana Munch** is joined by guest bassoonist and recorder player **David Schreiner** in works by Handel, Telemann, Gailliard, and Bach. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. $15 (seniors, $12; students, $5) at the door only. 528–1838.*

★**Emerson School: Barnes & Noble.** Students from this local private school present a fun-filled evening that includes face painting and tattoos, singing, a theatrical production, kids activities, and a raffle for teens. *5–8 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

Signe Karlstrom Festival of Nordic Arts 2009: U-M Scandinavian Studies/Residential College Players. See 13 Friday. Tonight: **"Nordic Edge."** Classical chamber music by contemporary Scandinavian composers, including Jouni Kaipainen's *Gluehende Bumen die Aussicht,* Lotta Wennakoski's *Gulla d'Aria,* and Per Magnus Lindborg's *Tusalava.* The performers include musicians from the DSO, the New Music Detroit Ensemble, the Muse Ensemble, and the local Brave New Works. *7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10 & $20 (students, $5) includes an afterglow with Scandinavian foods. 276–4906.*

16 MONDAY

U-M Club of Ann Arbor. *Nov. 16, 23, & 30.* Lunchtime talks by U-M athletic coaches and staff members. Today: wrestling coach **Joe McFarland.** Also this month: football coach **Rich Rodriguez** (Nov. 23) and basketball coach **John Beilein** (Nov. 30). *11:30 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $19 (members, $14.25; seniors, $13.75), includes lunch. 649–8816.*

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 975–4348.*

★**Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild.** Informal show-and-tell of club members' summer fiber art projects. Nonmembers welcome. Refreshments. *7 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

★**Nonfiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of Barbara Ehrenreich's ***Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America.*** Refreshments. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Praxial Music Education: New Dimensions and Future Directions": U-M School of Music Carrigan Memorial Lecture Series.** NYU music professor **David Elliott** discusses his socially and artistically grounded philosophy of music education. *7 p.m., 2058 U-M Music School, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**"Bagging the Muse: An Introduction to the Fine Art of Songwriting": Ann Arbor District Library.** Lecture-demo by the nationally renowned veteran local singer-songwriter **Dick Siegel.** *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Critical Nature of Creativity": Ann Arbor Women Artists.** A multimedia talk by **Barbara Neri,** an internationally recognized multimedia Michigan artist who has been working for over a decade on projects inspired by Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poetry. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 483–1897.*

★**"Medicinal Uses of Plants": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talk by local herbalist Bronwen Gates. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. (810) 923–5860.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Christopher Lees conducts this music student ensemble in the Overture to Dvorak's *Carnival* and Beethoven's Symphony no. 6 (Pastoral). *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

17 TUESDAY

★**"Playing Ball with Legends: The Story and Stories of Don Lund": U-M Clements Library.** Former Detroit Tiger outfielder and U-M baseball coach **Don Lund** discusses James Irwin's new book about Lund's baseball career. Signing. *4–6 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Free. 764–0684.*

★**"Depression and Anxiety in Youth and Adolescents": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M psychiatry professor Kate Fitzgerald, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with U-M Depression Center experts. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Challenging Museum Sustainability: Governance, Community Participation, and the Fickle Political Climate in Southern Luzon (Philippines) Towns": U-M Museum Studies Program/U-M Museum of Art.** Talk by Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines) anthropology professor Ana Labrador. *7 p.m., U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936–6678.*

★**"The Maze Runner": Waters Place Borders.** Popular Utah young adult writer **James Dashner** reads from his new fantasy about a kid who wakes up in a strange place surrounded by stone walls and can't remember anything but his first name. Signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd., Free. 997–8884.*

★**Writers Reading at Sweetwaters.** Reading by local poet **Chloe Yelena Miller,** co-editor of the online literary journal *Portal del Sol*. Followed by open-mike readings for poets and other creative writers. *7–9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369–2798.*

★**"Career Choices: Risks and Rewards": American Association of University Women.** Talk by EMU president **Susan Martin.** *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973–6287.*

★**"The Poetry and Practicalities of Hiking the U.P.": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by Eric Hansen, author of *Hiking Michigan's Upper Peninsula*. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. doug.cowherd@michigan.sierraclub.org*

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

Berlin Philharmonic: University Musical Society. *See review, p. 59.* Simon Rattle conducts this renowned orchestra in Brahms' lushly romantic Symphony no. 4, whose finale is arguably the best music Brahms wrote. The program also includes Brahms' Symphony no. 3 and Schoenberg's turbulent *Begleitmusik zu einer Lichtspielszene (Accompanying Music to a Film Scene). 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$125 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

18 WEDNESDAY

John Hummel: Society for Musical Arts. Program TBA by this Monroe (MI) singer, winner of the 2009 SMA competition. Followed by a meet-the-artist lunch ($13). *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $15 (accompanying friend, $13; students, $5; season pass, $65) at the door only. Lunch reservations required by calling 662–3279. 429–4705.*

★**Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. *10:45 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

David Lampton: Margaret Waterman Alumnae Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series. Talk by the Johns Hopkins University Chinese studies director, who is currently writing a book on Chinese power and its implications for the world. *11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. $40 (advance tickets sold out, limited number available at the door only). 971–6474.*

★**"(Un)Natural History: The Museum Unveiled": U-M Museum of Art.** Docent-led tour of the current exhibit. *Noon, UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Brahms Trio: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights. Performance by this AASO ensemble. The program begins with dessert and socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $8. 971–0990.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**"Rye Bread & Anarchism": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Zingerman's owner **Ari Weinzweig.** *7 p.m., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Robert Altman: The Oral Biography": U-M Library.** Boston University journalism professor **Mitchell Zuckoff** discusses his new biography of the late filmmaker that made director Wes Anderson feel "heartbroken but happily and deeply inspired." Signing. *7 p.m., U-M Hatcher Graduate Library Gallery, Room 100. Free. 615–3194.*

★**"A World without Ice": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M geophysics professor Henry Pollack, a member of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize co-winning International Panel on Climate Change. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Stand Facing the Stove: The Story of the Women Who Gave America the Joy of Cooking,*** Anne Mendelson's biography of *The Joy of Cooking* author Irma Rombauer and her daughter Marion. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Birding the Soo": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by on winter birding in the Sault Ste. Marie area of the U.P. by Dahlem Conservancy (Jackson) People for Wildlife coordinator Gary Siegrist and former WAS president Lathe

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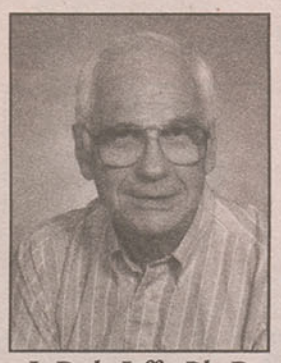

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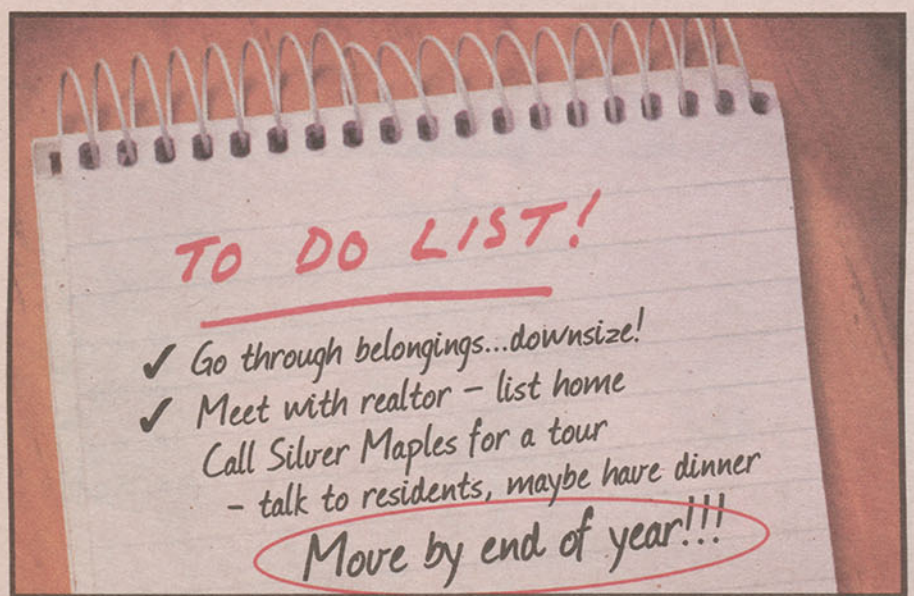
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Claflin. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**"Natural History Museums, Aesthetics, and Conservation": U-M Museum of Art.** Cornell University evolutionary biologist Harry Greene discusses his research on amphibians and reptiles that combines Darwin's theory of "descent with modification" and Kant's distinction between beauty and the sublime. *7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium. Free. 764–0395.*

★**University Chamber Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music student ensemble in the entirety of Stravinsky's ballet *Pulcinella* and Schubert's Symphony no. 9. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Chamber Choir: U-M School of Music.** Jerry Blackstone conducts this music student ensemble in Hugo Wolf's *Sechs Geistliche Lieder,* William Averitt's *Afro-American Fragments,* Mozart's "Placido e il mar," and others. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

★**"Contemporary Chinese Composers": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** Multimedia lecture-demo by Portland State University piano professor **Susan Chan** (see 8 p.m. listing below). *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–5346.*

★**"A Taste of Thanksgiving": International Neighbors.** All area women invited to enjoy some sweet and savory Thanksgiving treats. Bring recipes to share, if you like. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

★**"Maps of World War II": U-M Map Library.** Display of WW II maps made in the U.S. *4–7 p.m., Map Library, Hatcher Graduate Library, Room 825. Free. 764–0407.*

★**"Andrew Carnegie's Library Legacy": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by DAR member Connie Olson. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"Landscapes of Power, c. 1300: Social and Cultural Interactions at the Garden-Park of Hesdin": U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies.** Talk by University of California-Santa Barbara history professor Sharon Farmer. Hesdin is a town in northern France. *4–6 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615–7400.*

★**"Sexularism: Gender Equality and Secularization": U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc & Constance Jacobson Lecture.** Lecture by Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, NJ) social science professor Joan Scott. *4–6 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Immigration, Public Policy, and the Skills Debate": U-M Ford School of Public Policy.** U-M economics professor Dean Yang moderates a panel discussion with Harvard University Kennedy School of Government professor George Borjas and University of California-San Diego economics professor Gordon Hanson. *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–6973.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** See 5 Thursday. Today: Fiction reading by **Kevin Brockmeier,** an acclaimed Arkansas novelist and short story writer. His 2008 story collection *The View from the Seventh Layer* demonstrates what *Publishers Weekly* calls a "mastery of the tricky intersection between fantasy and realism." 5 p.m.

★**"Fremont USA: A City's Encounter with Religious Diversity": Ann Arbor District Library.** Screening of Rachel Antell and Elinor Pierce's award-winning 2009 documentary about how this religiously diverse California city responded to the brutal murder of a Muslim woman. Followed by a discussion led by U-M Community Scholars Program faculty and students. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Ann Arbor Society for Origami.** All children & adults invited to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. *7–9:30 p.m., Great Oak Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975–4669.*

5th Annual Holiday Gift Auction: Glacier Way West Side Cooperative Preschool Fund-Raiser. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free admission. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. 995–0707.*

★**"The 13th Reality, Volume 1: The Journal of Curious Letters": Barnes & Noble.** Children's fiction writer **James Dasher** discusses his new adventure tale for kids ages 9–12. Q&A. Signing. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

"Pinocchio": Young Actors Guild. *Nov. 19–21.* Donald Amerson directs young local actors in Madge Miller's 1954 adaptation of the classic story of a puppet that wants to be a real boy. *7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, 3257 Lohr Rd. $10 (students through high school, $5). 913–9800.*

★**"Lost in Yonkers": U-M Basement Arts.** *Nov. 19–21.* Richie Grasso directs U-M students in Neil Simon's award-winning bittersweet comedy, set in New York in 1942, about a multigenerational family living in happiness and strife, as seen through the eyes of teenage brothers sent to live with their strict grandmother and loving but scatterbrained aunt when their father takes a job away from home. *7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu*

★**"The Clunie Site": Michigan Archaeological Society.** Historical Society of Saginaw County archaeology curator **Jeff Sommer** discusses excavations at this late-prehistoric Native American habitat located just south of Saginaw. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 424 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

★**Fall Concert: Huron High School Orchestras.** Chris Mark conducts all 3 Huron orchestras in Dvorak's Symphony no. 8 and other works TBA. *7:30 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller Rd. Free. 994–2040.*

"Hero of Helpmart": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. *Nov. 19–21.* Rudolf Steiner students perform a drama, by Steiner School English and drama teacher Mary Emery and her son Jules Holbrook, about an aspiring young writer who uses the power of her imagination to transform a job she hates into something marvelous. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. $5 (students, $3; family, $12). 669–9394.*

"Uncommon Women and Others": U-M Theatre Department. *Nov. 19–22.* U-M drama professor John Neville-Andrews directs U-M theater students in Wendy Wasserstein's witty, high-spirited 1977 drama about 5 women who reunite 6 years after their graduation from college and revisit episodes from their senior year when, caught between traditional ideas of womanhood and feminism, each woman made decisions that would determine her place in the world. *7:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $18 & $24 (students, $9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**Susan Chan: EMU Music Department.** This Portland State University piano professor performs works by Franck, Chopin, Liszt, Somei Satoh, and Tan Dun. *8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★**Campus Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Grad students conduct nonmusic majors in Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture,* Bartok's *Romanian Folk Dances,* Saint-Saens's *Danse Bacchanale,* and Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"happenchance on a blank body": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert. *Nov. 19–21.* An evening of original choreography by U-M dance majors **Betsy Busald, Catherine Coury, Elizabeth Dugas** and **Nadia Tykulsker.** Busald's group work is a sextet illustrating the nature of memory, and her solo is a collaboration with playwright Goli Rahimi. Coury's group work, inspired by the Spanish poet Garcia Lorca, highlights the lifestyle of gypsy women, and her solo, set to the works of spiritual activist Marianne Williamson, explores the discovery of self-worth in the shedding of fear. Dugas presents 2 complementary works based on the perplexity of one's path in life. Tykulsker's group work is a series of succinct 2-minute dances inspired by the poetry of U-M student Kellen Braddock and set to a score by U-M student Jake Merkin, and her solo is a study of personal growth inspired by her experience moving from Brooklyn, NY, to Ann Arbor. *Note:* These shows often sell out very quickly. *8 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio, 1310 North University Ct. $5 at the door only, beginning at 7 p.m. 763–5460, 763–5461.*

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Nov. 19–22.* Thom Johnson directs Steve Martin's inventive, sharp-witted play about an imaginary meeting, set in a Parisian cafe at the turn of the last century, between Picasso and Einstein. The action is an exhilarating mix of dramatic speeches, surreal episodes, sexual sparring, music hall bits, and comedy both high and low. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $18 (seniors, $16; students, $10; Thurs., $14) in advance at a2ct.org or by calling 971–2228.*

Michael Loftus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 19–21.* This quick-witted comic from Columbus, Ohio, a founding member of the Midwest Tool & Die Improv Troupe, is known for high-energy

stream-of-consciousness monologues on politics, current events, and anything else that troubles his peace of mind. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all Fri. & Sat. early shows are nonsmoking. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $8 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"The Night of the Iguana": MorrisCo Art Theatre. *Nov. 19–21.* Susan Morris directs local actors in Tennessee Williams' drama about the unexpected connection between a disgraced Episcopal priest and a poor spinster artist. Set at the Costa Verde hotel in 1940s Mexico, "a place where hard notions of good and evil go soft in the sun," the play maps "the terrible limbo of human loneliness," says a *New York Times* review. It's about "accepting goodness and beauty where and how you find them." Cast: Glenn Bugala, Colby Halloran, Laurie Atwood, Bob Green, Patricia Rector, Lisa White, Glen Modell, and Christopher Potter. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $18 (students & seniors, $15) in advance at info@morrisco.org and 996–2549.*

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun. (except Nov. 26 & Dec. 25), Nov. 19–Dec. 27.* David Wolber directs local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's fast-paced, gleefully inventive adaptation of Dickens' classic Christmas tale in which 5 actors play more than 40 roles. Stars John Seibert. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Nov. 19), $22 (Nov. 20 & 22), and $30 (Nov. 21). Nov. 27 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After Nov. 27: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

20 FRIDAY

★**"Social Media": Workantile Exchange.** Talk by annarbor.com blogging leader **Ed Vielmetti.** *11:30 a.m., Workantile, 118 S. Main (enter through Mighty Good Coffee). Free. 395–6779.*

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2–10 can enjoy dinner, games, and sports, and (age 5 & older only) a dip in the pool. *6:15–10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. $30 (members, $25). Preregistration required. 661–8058.*

★**"Gimme a Shelter": Ann Arbor District Library.** Award-winning documentary filmmaker **Tom McPhee,** director of *An American Opera: The Greatest Pet Rescue Ever,* shows teens in grades 6–12 how to make a documentary on animal rights. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Fall Concert: U-M Dicks and Janes. This co-ed a cappella ensemble sings the Beatles' "Eleanor Rigby," Coldplay's "Viva La Vida," Alicia Keys' "Where Do We Go from Here," group member Hannah Winkler's "Dear Love," and others. They also sing a few songs from their brand new CD, *Acousticophilia,* including Sufjan Stevens' "Chicago," Ben Folds' "You Don't Know Me," and Malcolm Dalgish's "Great Trees." *7 p.m., U-M MLB Auditorium 3, 812 E. Washington. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $8) in advance by emailing carlmciara@gmail.com or by calling (248) 444–5339.*

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** See 6 Friday. Today: poetry by **Darrel Holmes** and fiction by **Tim Hedges.** 7 p.m.

"Pinocchio": Young Actors Guild. See 19 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**"Lost in Yonkers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 19 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★**"Hokkaido Rails" and "Monon Memories": Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers.** Video-illustrated talks by club members Larry Kreig and Gary Sample. *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996–8345, 971–8329.*

★**Ann Arbor Kirtan.** All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

"Our Town": Greenhills School. *Nov. 20–22.* Nancy Heusel directs upper school students in Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize–winning portrait of a small town at the beginning of the 20th century. The 3 acts examine "Daily Life," "Love and Marriage," and "Death" with graceful simplicity. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5). 205–4098.*

"Struggle for Existence: Darwin's Dreams": U-M Exhibit Museum/Residential College Drama Concentration. *Nov. 20–22.* RC drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs her acting students in the world premiere of U-M Museum of Paleontology research scientist and RC lecturer Catherine Badgley's play about Darwin's struggle, in the weeks before the publication of *On the Origin of Species,* to reconcile his research with the impact his findings will have on his own and future societies. The action takes the form of a series of waking dreams in different exhibits and spaces as the audience walks through them. *Note:* There is a Nov. 19 performance for U-M students only. *7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $10 suggested donation. Reservations required. 764–0480.*

"Hero of Helpmart": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. See 19 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Annie Get Your Gun": Skyline High School. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Man Who Came to Dinner": Huron High School Players. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

Duo Diorama: Great Lakes Performing Artists Association. This husband-and-wife duo of Canadian pianist Winston Choi and Chinese violinist Minghuan Xu performs works TBA. *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda": (University Musical Society). Tony Award–winning Broadway star **Patti LuPone** is known for her dramatic flair and magnificent pipes. "You don't want to miss it when Patti LuPone throws a party," says a *Washington Post* review of tonight's program, calling it "less a consideration of what LuPone coulda been than a celebration of the singular stage force she is." Tonight's program includes selections from *Hair, Bye Bye Birdie, Funny Girl, West Side Story, Peter Pan, Evita,* and other Broadway shows. The program is preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a **cabaret prelude dinner** ($50) that features a talk by U-M musical theater professor Brent Wagner. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$54 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Old Crow Medicine Show: The Ark/Outback Concerts. Old-time acoustic string band music performed with punk bravura by this young Nashville-based quintet. The band plays music in a wide range of old-time styles, from Appalachian to Memphis blues and jug band music, and its repertoire includes both vintage tunes from the 20s and 30s and originals in a similar style. A frequent guest on *Prairie Home Companion,* the band received a standing ovation at its Grand Ole Opry debut, and its fans include Marty Stuart and Ricky Skaggs, who says "these boys make me think of Dock Boggs on steroids." *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $20, $27, & $35 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, all other Ticketmaster outlets, & ticketmaster.com, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Hair": U-M MUSKET. *Nov. 20–22.* U-M students present Gerome Ragni, James Rado, and Galt MacDermot's archetypal 60s rock musical. A celebration of the hippie counterculture, *Hair* explores issues of social injustice, free love, drugs, and the Vietnam War through the story of a young man who is debating draft-dodging. Several of the show's songs are still popular, including "Aquarius," "Let the Sun Shine In," "Good Morning, Starshine," and the title tune. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $13 (students, $7) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office and at the door.*

"happenchance on a blank body": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Night of the Iguana": MorrisCo Art Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Uncommon Women and Others": U-M Theatre Department. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Michael Loftus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. Preceded at 8 p.m. by free dance lessons. *8 p.m.–midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933.*

21 SATURDAY

Annual Bazaar & Bake Sale: Saline Area Senior Center. *9 a.m.–2 p.m., Senior Center, 7190 N. Maple (behind the middle school), Saline. Free admission. 429–9274.*

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"Taking the Leap with 'What If?'": Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by printmaker **Rayna Gillman,** author of *Create Your Own Hand-Printed Cloth. 9:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $15 (members, free). (248) 349–7322.*

★**"Lift Your Voice": AGLOW International.** A speaker TBA gives a summary of last month's AGLOW International convention. AGLOW is a network of Christian women who meet for prayer and community outreach. Women of all faiths invited. Light refreshments. *9:30 a.m.–noon, WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., room 340, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

★**Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway.** *Nov. 21 & 28.* One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:30 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. $16 to race. (313) 565–2815.*

"Family Fun Concert": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Pinckney musician **Guy Louis** presents a fast-paced family concert, with lots of audience participation, celebrating community and original creative expression. *11 a.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (age 16 & under, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

U-M Football vs. Ohio State. *Time TBA, Michigan Stadium. Sold out. 764–0247.*

"Pinocchio": Young Actors Guild. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Irish Dancing: Arts in Motion Dance Studio. Irish soft-shoe dancing to recorded music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. *3:45–4:45 p.m., Arts in Motion, 2841 Boardwalk. $10 per person. 222–6246.*

★**"The Crypto Capers Series": Barnes & Noble.** Award-winning romance novelist **Renee Hand** discusses her interactive mystery series for kids ages 8–13. Signing. *4 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

Thanksgiving Dinner: Chinese-American Society of Ann Arbor. Dinner and dancing to recorded music. Bring a Thanksgiving side dish to pass. Roasted turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, and pie provided. Beverages. *6–10 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $5 (families, $10; members, free). Reservations required. 996–1440, 255–5506.*

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids ages 5–10 invited for dinner, games, and screenings (for girls) of the classic movie ***The Wizard of Oz*** and (for boys) the hit animated comedy ***Up.*** *6:30–10 p.m., JCC gym, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $25 (members, $20), $23 (members, $18) for each additional sibling. Reservations required. 971–0990.*

Bandorama: EMU Music Department. A rousing program of music for bands featuring the University Concert Winds, the Symphonic Band, and the EMU Marching Band in full regalia. *7 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $8; kids under 12, $6) in advance and (if available) at the door. 487–1221.*

★**"Lost in Yonkers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 19 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Hero of Helpmart": Rudolf Steiner High School Drama Club. See 19 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"The Man Who Came to Dinner": Huron High School Players. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Annie Get Your Gun": Skyline High School. See 13 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Struggle for Existence: Darwin's Dreams": U-M Exhibit Museum/Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 20 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Our Town": Greenhills School. See 20 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Boris Slutsky: U-M School of Music.** This Peabody Conservatory piano professor plays a program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Baroque Chamber Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Harpsichordist Edward Parmentier leads this music student ensemble in Handel's Concerto Grosso in A Minor, Johann Schein's *Dance Suite,* Samuel Scheidt's "Est-ce Mars," Couperin's *La Sultanne,* and Purcell's Chaconne in G Minor. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Blanche Anderson Moore Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. 764–0594.*

★**Andres Cardenas: U-M School of Music.** This Pittsburgh Symphony concertmaster is joined by violinist **Stephen Shipps,** pianist **Katherine Collier,** cellist **Suren Bagratuni,** and violists **Yizhak Schotten** and **Megan Fergusson** in Rolla's Duo Concertante for Violin and Viola, Beethoven's So-

american music

Bolcom & Morris, Bolkosky & Cooker

Classical meets cabaret

Though they have worked together in various combinations before, when William Bolcom and Joan Morris join Gabriel Bolkosky and Michelle Cooker for "An Afternoon of American Music" at the Kerrytown Concert House on November 29, it will be the first time all four of them have shared a program.

Bolcom and Morris are very familiar names to Ann Arborites. Even among our town's wealth of nationally and internationally acclaimed musicians, they are the undisputed First Couple. Bolcom's compositions, whether ten-second cabaret pieces or symphonies and grand operas, have won him numerous prizes from the Pulitzer to multiple Grammy awards, while his many performances and recordings with his wife, mezzo-soprano Joan Morris, have won them a Grammy nomination and a large and enthusiastic following.

Though comparative newcomers, Bolkosky and Cooker are also no strangers to local audiences. Violinist Bolkosky has appeared widely as a soloist and in chamber music configurations, including a recent performance at Carnegie Hall, while pianist Cooker has accompanied and performed with numerous prominent violinists, both locally and nationally.

Anchoring the first half of the afternoon, which Bolkosky and Cooker will devote primarily to Bolcom's compositions, is his Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano. Commissioned in honor of famed violin teacher Dorothy DeLay's 75th birthday, the Sonata received its premiere at the 1992 Aspen Music Festival, with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg on violin and the composer at the piano. Bolkosky, then nineteen and a student at the U-M, was in the front row that day. "I was mesmerized," he recalls now. Inspired to learn the piece, he even worked up the courage to ask Bolcom to perform it with him a few years later. Virtuosic and filled with modern melodic and harmonic language, the sonata is a work that, as the famed music critic Nicolas Slonimsky said about Bolcom's music, "compels the audience to follow."

When Bolcom and Morris take the stage for the second half, they'll offer the cabaret part of this classical-meets-cabaret concert. Drawing on their enormous repertoire—they've released more than two dozen recordings—they will, Morris says, "restore some songs we've not done for many years." Choosing material from the Big Five of modern American popular music—Berlin, Kern, Gershwin, Porter, and Rodgers & Hart—plus songs by Kurt Weill and Leiber & Stoller, they'll also showcase Bolcom originals, including cameo appearances by his Minicabs, tiny tunes with lyrics by longtime collaborator Arnold Weinstein. A sample: "I will never forgive you," repeated three times for emphasis, before concluding with, "for my behavior!"

Bolcom and Morris present all these with that perfect blend of sophistication, wit, charm, and elegance that is the trademark of both great cabaret songs and their performances.

—San Slomovits

nata in G Major, and Brahms' String Quintet in G Major. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"Italian Baroque Music": Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Carmen Cavallaro directs this 16-member women's early-music choir in 17th-century Italian convent music highlighted by the dramatic Gloria from Francesco Gasparini's Mass. The program also includes works by Sulpitia Cesis, Bianca Maria Meda, Giulio Cesare Arresti, Ivan Lukacic, Chiara Margarita Cozzolani, and Romano Micheli. Accompanists are cellist and viola da gambist **Debra Lonergan,** recorder player **Beth Gilford,** and organist **Deborah Friauff.** *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12, students, $5) at the door only. 662–0631.*

150th Annual Fall Concert: Men's Glee Club (U-M School of Music). This popular student men's chorus, the second-oldest college glee club in the U.S., is joined by the **Southfield-Lathrup High School madrigal singers.** The varied program ranges from Samuel Barber's "A Stopwatch and an Ordnance Map" and Mack Wilberg's arrangement of "The Morning Trumpet" to Curtis Mayfield's "People Get Ready" and rousing U-M songs. Also, a guest performance by the popular Glee Club quartet **The Friars.** *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $15 (students with ID, $5) in advance at umich.edu/~ummac/tickets.html and at the door. 764–4448.*

"happenchance on a blank body": U-M Dance Department B.F.A. Concert. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Night of the Iguana": MorrisCo Art Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Hair": U-M MUSKET. See 20 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Uncommon Women and Others": U-M Theatre Department. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Michael Loftus: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. With live music. No partner needed; all dances taught. Preceded by a lesson at 7:30 p.m. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. $10. 426–0241.*

International Folk Dancing. Dancing to live music by Katun. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. *9–11 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $8–$10 (students, $3–$5) donation. 995–0011.*

"Girls Night \aut\ with Tracy Mack": Sh\aut\ Cabaret and Gallery. Performances by local blues-rock and folk-rock singer-songwriter Mack and another musician TBA. *9 p.m.–midnight, Sh\aut\, 325 Braun Ct. $5 admission. 663–0036.*

22 SUNDAY

★**"Descent into Board-dom": Ann Arbor District Library.** Vault of Midnight staff show how to play Ticket to Ride, Samurai, Wasabi, and other popular family-friendly board games. *1–4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Bill Harley: Ann Arbor District Library.** Children's concert for kids in grades 2–5 by this Massachusetts singer-songwriter and storyteller who's been called the "Mark Twain of contemporary kids music." *1–2 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 327–8301.*

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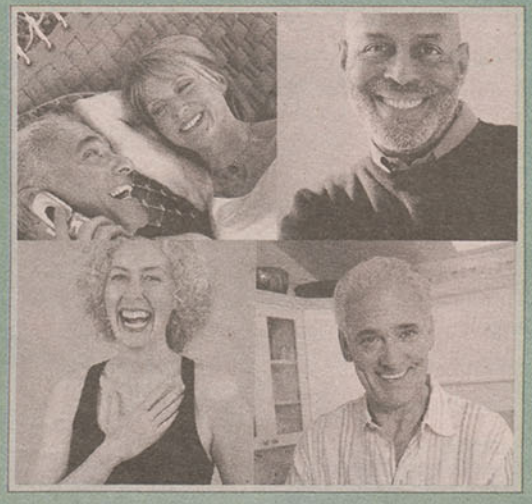

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"The Little Prince": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 5 Thursday. 1 & 3 p.m.

★**"Doing Research at the Burton Library": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Detroit Public Library special collections coordinator John Gibson discusses the DPL Burton Historical Collection. Followed by a talk by club member Jan Tripp on **"Beginning Land Records."** *1:30 p.m., Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. 483–2799.*

★**"The Mouse Ate the House": MoonWinks Café.** Local writer Sheila Pursglove is on hand with Matthew Merriweather Mouse, the main character in her new children's book, to sign copies of her story about his discovery of a delicious gingerbread house and for kids to have their photos taken with him. *2–4 p.m., Moonwinks Café, 5121 Plymouth Rd. Free. 646–4696.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or tell their own. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

"Hair": U-M MUSKET. See 20 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Our Town": Greenhills School. See 20 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Uncommon Women and Others": U-M Theatre Department. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Percussion Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** This energetic music student ensemble plays Erik Santos's joyous *Sun Dogs,* David Hollinden's energetic *Reckless,* U-M grad student Subaram Raman's disturbing *Martyrdom of the Basiji for Eight Percussionists,* Michael Udow's *Topsy Turvy,* Michael Daugherty's *Shaken Not Stirred,* David Little's *Speak Softly,* and the premiere of works by local Pulitzer Prize–winning composer William Bolcom and U-M music professor Kristin Kuster. *3 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

"A Puppet History of Ypsilanti": Dreamland Theater. See 15 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

Jim Wilhelmsen Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This trio led by local pianist Wilhelmsen plays Gabriel Pierne's *Sonata da Camera,* Mendelssohn's Trio in D Minor, and Jean Françaix's Trio for Flute, Cello, and Piano. Other members include flutist **Richard Sherman** and DSO cellist **Robert deMaine.** *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Concert: Ann Arbor Cantata Singers. Warren Puffer Jones directs this polished semiprofessional local ensemble in works by American composers, including William Billings, Aaron Copland, Amy Beach, Stephen Foster, and others. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. $10 (students & seniors, $8; age 18 & under, free) in advance; $12 (students & seniors, $10) at the door. tickets@a2cantatasingers.org, 996–8867.*

★**"Backstage at Performance Network": Ann Arbor District Library.** Performance Network artistic director David Wolber leads a guided tour for adults and teens in grade 6 & up of this local professional theater. Followed by a Q&A with Network actors and staff. *4:30–5:30 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron Free. 327–8301.*

★**15th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County.** Music, readings, and meditations by local representatives from many faith traditions. All encouraged to donate dry goods or money for those in need. Refreshments. *7–8 p.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard. Free. 424–1535, 662–3654.*

"aPOPScalypse": Michigan Pops Orchestra. This 100-member ensemble, the only student-run orchestra on campus, performs Mahler's 7th Symphony, Beethoven's 5th Symphony, and selections from *Pirates of the Caribbean III, King Kong,* and other works TBA. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $8 (students, $5) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. 763–TKTS. 763–1107.*

★**"Struggle for Existence: Darwin's Dreams": U-M Exhibit Museum/Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 20 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Cabaret Studio Recital: U-M School of Music.** Students of music professor and popular local singer Joan Morris perform works by Gershwin, Leiber & Stoller, Bolcom & Weinstein, Goldrich & Heisler, Kurt Weill, and others. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Drag King Rebellion: Sh\aut\ Cabaret & Gallery. This Michigan gender performance troupe is joined by renowned feminist performance artist and U-M art and design professor **Holly Hughes** in a musical performance art show TBA. *Time TBA, Sh\aut\, 325 Braun Ct. Cost TBA. 663–0036.*

23 MONDAY

★**"The Least Ancient Greek Poet": U-M Modern Greek Program.** Oxford University classics praelector Tim Whitmarsh discusses the fictitious 4th-century BC Greek poet Ananios of Kleitor, who (along with the surviving fragments of his poetry) is the creation of the renowned poet, critic, and medievalist George Economou, author of the recent *Poems and Fragments of Ananios of Kleitor and Their Reception from Antiquity to the Present,* a book Whitmarsh calls "a kind of ancient-world equivalent of Nabokov's *Pale Fire.*" Whitmarsh's talk is followed by comments by Economou. *4–6 p.m., 2172 Angell Hall. Free. 936–6099.*

★**Jazz Concert: Greenhills School.** Neil Donato conducts Greenhills student jazz ensembles in a program TBA. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 769–4010.*

★**Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music.** *Nov. 23 & 24.* U-M music professor Ed Sarath leads these music student ensembles in original compositions and jazz standards. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

24 TUESDAY

★**"An Evening with Helen Thomas": Ann Arbor District Library.** The legendary dean of the White House Press Corps discusses her new book, ***Listen Up Mr. President: Everything You Wanted Your Presidents to Know and Do.*** Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 327–4560.*

"Torah and Tonics": Temple Beth Emeth. TBE rabbi Lisa Delson leads a group discussion of short Hebrew texts, translated to English, that range from racy to bizarre. Participants read the text at the beginning of the meeting. *7:30 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. Free admission. 761–3463.*

★**Arts Chorale: U-M School of Music.** This ensemble of nonmusic majors plays Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs,* a Brazilian love song, some American folk songs, and excerpts from Handel, Haydn, and Mendelssohn oratorios. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

Tobias Delius & Georg Graewe: Kerrytown Concert House "Jazz at the Edge." *See review, p. 61.* Original avant-jazz compositions and improvisations by the duo of Dutch saxophonist and clarinetist Delius and German pianist Graewe. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10–$25. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★**Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music.** See 23 Monday. 8 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

25 WEDNESDAY

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

26 THURSDAY (Thanksgiving)

★**"Thanksgiving Democratic Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** The assembled riders determine the ride's pace and destination. All invited. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

27 FRIDAY

★**"Turkey Burnoff Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** The assembled riders determine their own pace, distance, and destination. *10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

★**"Bring a Friend to Motawi Tileworks": Motawi Tileworks.** Motawi co-owner Karim Motawi leads 1–hr. walking tours of the studio. Door prizes, cider and doughnuts. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Motawi Tileworks, 170 Enterprise Dr. Free. 213–0017.*

★**Juggler Joel Tacey: Ann Arbor District Library.** This local professional juggler presents **"Reading Rocks,"** a magic and juggling show for kids in K–5. *2–2:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Nov. 27–29.* Heywood Banks is the stage name of Howell native Stuart Mitchell, a very animated comedian known for his silly musical spoofs, goofy prop humor, and sight gags. Since adopting the nerdy, quietly psychotic Banks persona in the mid-80s, he has risen from a regional favorite to a national star. A longtime local favorite—he even played a few shows at Rick's American Cafe in the pre-Comedy Show-

case days—he is making his 10th annual Thanksgiving weekend appearance. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *Note:* The 7 p.m. shows tonight and Nov. 29 are **all-ages shows** (youths 16 & under must be accompanied by a parent). The early shows each night are nonsmoking shows. *7 & 9:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $17 reserved seating in advance and general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

"Annie": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Nov. 27–29 & Dec. 3–6, 10–13, & 17–19.* Daniel Cooney directs Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin, and Thomas Meehan's upbeat, Tony Award–winning 1976 musical comedy inspired by the Little Orphan Annie comic strip. Set in Depression-era New York, the plot follows the adventures of the plucky Annie and her faithful sidekick pup Sandy as they escape an orphanage run by the despicable Mrs. Hannigan and eventually find a home with the millionaire Daddy Warbucks, rubbing elbows with FDR along the way. Songs include "Tomorrow," "We'd Like to Thank You, Herbert Hoover," "Hard-Knock Life," and "Easy Street." Cast TBA. *8 p.m., Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets $28 (members & seniors, $25; groups of 10 or more, $22) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

"If Only in My Dreams": Blackbird Theatre. *Nov. 27–29 and Dec. 4–6, 12 & 13.* Blackbird artistic director **Barton Bund** and longtime Blackbird actor **William Myers** present a series of holiday-themed monologues in the voices of Jack Kerouac, Dylan Thomas, Truman Capote, and Canadian novelist Roch Carrier. *8 p.m., Blackbird Theatre, 1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). $20 (seniors, $15; students, $10) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org and at the door. 332–3848.*

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

28 SATURDAY

22nd Annual Handspinners' Holiday Fair: Spinners' Flock. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 769–1657, 662–6366.*

Local Ann Arbor Eclectic Artists Open House and Sale. *Nov. 28 & 29. 11 a.m.–4 p.m., 505 Lakeview Ave. (off Liberty east of Wagner). Free admission. 663–7114, 741–4441.*

★**"Wonderful and Unusual Gifts": Nature's Expressions.** *Nov. 28 & 29.* Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994–3048.*

★**"Allison Investigates": Barnes & Noble.** Canton teen **Taylor Joseph** discusses her 2nd novel, a fast-paced adventure about a precocious teen who investigates the theft of a neighbor's car. Signing. *1 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Calling All Knitters": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Big Girl Knits* author **Jillian Moreno** introduces adults and youth in grades 4 & up to the basics of knitting. Bring your own needles; yarn provided. *2–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

★**"4th Annual Turkey Burn Workout": Quest Martial Arts.** All age 12 and over invited for a kick boxing-style workout. Kids ages 12–17 must be accompanied by a parent. Wear workout clothes and socks. *3:45–5 p.m., Quest Martial Arts, 2111 Packard. Free. 332–1800.*

★**Guy Davis: Vault of Midnight.** This Michigan comic book artist, best known for his work on the *Sandman Mystery Theatre* series about a vigilante whose main weapon is sleeping gas, discusses his work. Signing. *6–8 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. Free. 998–1413.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Friday. 7 & 9:30 p.m.

4th Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. With live music. No partner needed. All dances taught. Beginner lessons at 7:40 p.m. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $9 (members, $8; students, $5). 730–6919.*

Jeff Daniels & Friends: Big Pickle Productions. Playwright and Purple Rose Theatre founder Daniels, who is also a prolific folk-style singer-songwriter, hosts an evening of music by an array of acts from around the state, performing separately and together, with an emphasis on songs celebrating Michigan. Performers include Kalamazoo neo-klezmer sextet **Red Sea Pedestrians,** local spoken word artist **Paul Princen,** a rootsy acoustic folk-rock Chelsea trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist (and Jeff's son) **Ben Daniels,** and the Lansing-based swing and jazz band **Shout Sister Shout,** a joint project of the velvet-voiced young Cadillac singer-songwriter Rachael Davis and the versatile Lansing acoustic string quartet Steppin' in It, and the **Scottville Clown Band,** a Scottville (MI) concert band of 60+ members that dress in clownish costumes. A benefit for Purple Rose Theatre. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $22.50–$75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Annie": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 27 Friday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"If Only in My Dreams": Blackbird Theatre. See 27 Friday. 8 p.m.

29 SUNDAY

Annual Southeast Michigan Train Show and Sale: Rails on Wheels. Huge display and sale of vintage and modern model trains and equipment, both scale (exact) and tinplate (approximate). Also, a realistic giant layout, a kids track, and a Lego train display. Lunch available. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $3 (children age 11 & under, free with an adult). 994–9872.*

Gemini: The Ark. Family concert by this popular acoustic duo that has built a strong following among kids and adults throughout the Great Lakes area. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits offer sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. The twins are joined by their **Good Mischief Band**—pianist Brian Brill, percussionist Aron Kauffman, and San's 13-year-old daughter, fiddler Emily Rose Slomovits. A portion of the proceeds go to the neonatal intensive care unit at the U-M Mott Children's Hospital, where Emily was born. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Christmas Carol'd": Performance Network Professional Season. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"If Only in My Dreams": Blackbird Theatre. See 27 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Escanaba": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Annie": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 27 Friday. 3 p.m.

"A Puppet History of Ypsilanti": Dreamland Theater. See 15 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**"Turkey Trek": Of Global Interest.** Local adventure tour guide Heather O'Neal leads a 6-mile hike from the Old West Side neighborhood to the Huron River and back, with a potluck dinner at picnic tables along the way. Bring a dish to share, your own beverages, and water. Table service provided. *4–8 p.m., meet at 120 Eighth St. Free. 369–3107.*

"An Afternoon of American Music": Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, p. 67.* The internationally renowned local husband-and-wife duo of composer-pianist **William Bolcom** and mezzo-soprano **Joan Morris** present a cabaret program drawing on their vast repertoire of classics and obscure gems spanning the history of American popular song. Also, local violinist **Gabriel Bolkosky** and local pianist **Michele Cooker** play Bolcom's Sonata No. 3 and selections from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$35 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Vienna Boys Choir: University Musical Society. Gerald Wirth directs this internationally renowned choir of about 25 boys ages 10–14 in **"Christmas in Vienna,"** a program of Christmas music. The choir was established more than 500 years ago and is known for its high musical standards and its members' angelic voices. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$36 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"4th Annual Tree Lighting Festival": Kerrytown Market and Shops.** Santa lights the tree. Also, caroling and luminarias. *5:30 p.m., Kerrytown Market & Shops courtyard. Free. 662–5008.*

Heywood Banks: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 27 Friday. 7 & 9:30 p.m.

30 MONDAY

No events.

Do you know...Tom Monaghan?

Jim Leonard, a writer for the Ann Arbor Observer, is writing a biography of **Tom Monaghan,** founder of *Domino's Pizza* and *Ave Maria,* for the University of Michigan Press, and he wants to hear from YOU if you have any good Tom Monaghan stories – happy stories, sad stories most of all personal stories.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. It's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio and the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. **Nov. 1: Cairn to Cairn.** Local Celtic folk trio. $15. **Nov. 2: Playing for Change Band.** *See review, this page.* Performance by this ensemble comprising musicians from around the world who contributed to Playing for Change, a video project that began when producers Mark Johnson and Enzo Buono traveled around the world asking musicians to add their voices and instruments to a video recording of the soul classic "Stand by Me." It became a YouTube phenomenon. They have since produced similar collaborative videos for several other songs. $40. **Nov. 3: Issa.** Canadian art-rock singer-songwriter, formerly known as Jane Siberry, whose richly textured, adventurously multilayered, highly conceptual, and ethereally lyrical original songs have provoked comparisons to Joni Mitchell and Laurie Anderson. Her concert repertoire features songs from throughout her career. $25. **Nov. 4: Erin McKeown and Jill Sobule.** Double bill. A Virginia native currently living in Rhode Island, McKeown is an up-and-coming singer-songwriter known for her distinctive guitar style, her droll understated lyrics, and her eclectic mix of musical styles, from 40s swing, cowboy jazz, and contemporary funk to Tin Pan Alley and folk-rock. A singer-songwriter known for sharp-witted, emotionally direct songs, Sobule also writes a lot of satirical songs from the viewpoint of women in the news or of her own fictional women that have provoked comparisons to Warren Zevon, with whom she often performed. $15. **Nov. 5: "EarthTones."** A benefit for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters with the western Michigan singer-songwriter duo **May Erlewine & Seth Bernard** and local singer-songwriters **Joe Reilly** and **Chris Buhalis.** $40 (students with ID, $20). **Nov. 6: Joe Pug.** Highly regarded young Chicago-based singer-songwriter whose music draws on a variety of influences from a young Dylan and John Prine to the late alt-country songwriter Walter Hyatt. $15. **Nov. 7: Greg Brown.** Veteran singer-songwriter whose well-crafted songs have been recorded by artists as diverse as Willie Nelson and Carlos Santana. He has also composed settings for the poetry of William Blake, but he is best known for "The Iowa Waltz" and other gruffly expressive, down-to-earth tributes to midwestern life and true love. He's an engaging, at times mesmerizing performer, with a deep voice that one critic calls a "gravel-floored basement full of memories, ruminations, lusts, and last-ditch humor." $30. **Nov. 8: Jeremy Kittel Band.** Kittel is a nationally up-and-coming fiddle virtuoso from Saline, a National Scottish Fiddle Champion and U-M music school jazz grad whose extremely eclectic repertoire ranges from Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton fiddle tunes to jazz, bluegrass, traditional Appalachian tunes, and originals that draw on all these genres. Tonight he celebrates the release of his band's debut CD. $15. **Nov. 10: David Wilcox.** An acclaimed singer-songwriter from Asheville, NC, Wilcox is a Cleveland native with a laid-back singing style whose songs, alternately yearning and plaintive, are known for their emotional force and intimacy and for their canny blend of pop and folk aesthetics. He's also a dynamic guitarist who favors offbeat tunings. $20. **Nov. 11: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Nov. 12: Jake Shimabukuro.** Known as "the Jimi Hendrix of ukulele," this young Hawaiian departs from standard ukulele music to churn out heavy metal, rock, jazz, and even classical music. Shimabukuro is known for lightning-fast playing, infectious good humor, and near-manic energy. $20. **Nov. 13: Enter the Haggis.** Popular young Toronto quintet whose music is a rousing, raucous blend of Scottish and Canadian Celtic music with rock, bluegrass, Caribbean, and world music. Instrumentation includes fiddle, bagpipes, tin whistle, guitars, keyboards, and drums. The band's new CD *Gutter Anthems* blends rousing drinking songs with pop and rock tunes. $15. **Nov. 14: "The TropARKana: An Evening with Raul Malo."** The former lead singer of the Mavericks, who sings in an exuberant, impossibly clean vibrato, Malo has been described as a cross between early Elvis and classic Roy Orbison. As a solo performer, he sings in English and Spanish, and his eclectic repertoire ranges from rock and country to big-band jazz. "It plays to Malo's strengths: Hollywood-style Afro-Cuban songs, Tex-Mex stompers, romantic ballads, countrypolitan honky-tonk," says a *Chicago Reader* review of his new CD, *Lucky One*. "He ain't reinventing the wheel, but he sure can roll it smooth." Havana tropical attire encouraged. A benefit for the Ark. $50. 5:30 p.m. **Nov. 15: Four Bitchin' Babes.** An evening of alternately hilarious and poignant songs about the joys and dilemmas of contemporary life presented by this popular troupe of singer-songwriters. The current lineup is Sally Fingerett, Debi Smith, Deirdre Flint, and Nancy Moran. Opening act is **Dala,** an Ontario all-female singer-songwriter pop duo. $22. **Nov. 17: Devendra Banhart.** Venezuelan-bred American singer-songwriter who writes pop-savvy avant-folk songs exploring a range of moods and personae. $29.50. **Nov. 18: Asylum Street Spankers.** Offbeat, neohippie dance music by this acoustic septet from Austin, Texas, that sets goofy lyrics to a high-spirited amalgam of blues, hot jazz, ragtime, old-time country, and just about any other genre of pre–WW II American music it can find. Led by singer-songwriter (and washboard player) Wammo and vocalist Christina Marrs, the band features guitars, bass, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, kazoo, and saw. $17.50. **Nov. 19: Frank Vignola.** Acoustic jazz trio led by this renowned guitar virtuoso. With guitarist Vinny Raniolo and violinist Aaron Weinstein. Opening act is **Hot Club of Detroit,** a popular jazz quartet led by fast-fingered guitarist Evan Perri that plays in the style of the great Gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt. $20. **Nov. 20: Carrie Rodriguez.** Acclaimed young Texas-bred alt-country singer-songwriter whose sultry, engagingly intimate rough-hewn vocals and sly but emotionally frank lyrics often provoke comparisons to Lucinda Williams, with whom she recently toured as the opening act. "There's a real earthiness in both Carrie's singing and fiddle playing on this series of colourful neo-country songs," says *Mojo* critic Colin Irwin. "She's hot and steamy one minute on the outrageously seductive '50s French Movies,' and pure Nashville the next on the Tammy-esque 'I Don't Want to Play House.'" $15. **Nov. 21: Willy Porter.** Pop-folk singer-songwriter from Milwaukee who gets most attention for his intricately virtuosic acoustic guitar playing. His music blends roots-pop with elements of funk and country, and his songs span a wide range of moods, from the trucker-inspired "Jesus on the Grille" and the girl-in-the-diner ode "Glow" to the erotic mysticism of "Watercolor." A favorite with local audiences. Opening act is **Luke Doucet,** a Canadian indie folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his absorbing story songs and virtuoso guitar playing. $17.50. **Nov. 22: Bill Harley.** Massachusetts songwriter and storyteller with an off-center point of view whose humorous commentaries have been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*. He is currently focusing his shows on material from *First Bird Call,* his new collection of songs showcasing his compassion and humor. $15. **Nov. 23: Blind Pilot.** Local debut of this Portland (OR) sextet that makes sparse, lovely Americana-flavored acoustic music. $13.50. Opening act is **Laura Veirs,** a Portland (OR) singer-songwriter whom My Morning Jacket frontman Jim James calls "the queen bee." **Nov. 24: Haley Bonar & Matt Jones.** Double bill. Bonar is a highly regarded St. Paul singer-songwriter who writes spare, memorable, emotionally and morally charged songs. According to *All Music Guide*, "she delivers her minor-key tunes and elliptical lyrics in a haunting delicate voice at times reminiscent both of Aimee Mann and Gillian Welch. Jones is a local pop-folk singer-songwriter who has a new CD, *The Black Path,* that *Metro Times* reviewer Doug Coombe calls "a beautifully produced and arranged folk-chamber pop record that shares a lot in common with Ann Arbor compatriots Chris Bathgate and the Great Lakes Myth Society." FREE. **Nov. 27: Matt Watroba.** WDET *Folks Like Us* host Watroba presents his annual post-Thanksgiving concert, a program of lyrical songs and poignant ballads, including several originals. Watroba sings in a sweet tenor voice, accompanying himself on guitar and punctuating his performance with sharply humorous observations. This show usually features several guest musicians. $15. **Nov. 28: Mr. B.** Ann Arbor's Mark "Mr. B" Braun has established an international reputation as one of the most exciting interpreters of traditional boogie-woogie and blues piano. He has mastered the classics from Meade Lux Lewis and Jimmy Yancey to Brother Montgomery and Professor Longhair, and he has added several dynamic originals to the long tradition he works in. *Cadence* reviewer Jerome Wilson praised his 1994 CD *My Sunday Best* for its "stunning versatility" and concluded that "the recent deaths of Champion Jack Dupree and Sunnyland Slim are reminders that blues piano seems a dying form, but Mark Braun is a good argument that it will live on." Tonight he is joined by Detroit boogie-woogie pianist **Bob Seeley** and the local early-jazz and gypsy jazz ensemble **Royal Garden Trio to** celebrate the release of his 2 new DVDs. $20.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. November schedule TBA.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main **222–0400**

This seafood and martini bar features live music Wed., 6:30–9:30 p.m., & DJ Sun., 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Nov. 4: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the De-

bluegrass

Bluegrass Night at the Circus

An old-time sound returns to the barroom

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Since the glory days of the old Pretzel Bell, bluegrass music has been heard only occasionally in Ann Arbor bars and clubs. But what goes around comes around again, and the Wednesday night bluegrass shows at the Circus are a phenomenon of the moment among university upperclassmen and twenty-somethings who've stuck around town. Bluegrass Night has sometimes had lines out the door, and it has intermittently expanded to Thursday nights as well. On any night, socializing is happening not just inside but outdoors, on the upstairs club's metal mesh staircase, and that's a sign of a healthy nightspot.

There's no cover charge, you can come as you are, and the importance of cheap beer in Bluegrass Night's success is not to be minimized. PBRs in a can are just $1.25, and beer at that price, along with a big crowd of people to talk to and flirt with over music of moderate volume, is hard to find in Ann Arbor. And the stimulating sound of banjos and mandolins rubs off to some extent on everyone in the room. The bands typically play two sets, and as the second one gets going young people crowd toward the stage and begin to move to the motor rhythms of the music.

Bluegrass Night has grown over the past year or so in a pleasingly organic way, and you never know what will happen on any given night. In between sets I've seen songwriter open-mike segments and, on one evening, burlesque dancers, clowns, and even a sword swallower.

The bands themselves are a mixed bag. For the most part they're not traditional bluegrass groups, but rather young players who use the bluegrass instrumentarium—banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin, and bass—but whose attitude comes from rock and its Americana offshoot rather than from the quiet country traditions of the South. Other nights, though, you'll hear pure traditional groups like Livingston County's Lonesome County Band and new folkies like the Lansing songwriter Jen Sygit, along with the likes of the Bearded Ladies, the Chicken Chokers, and other products of the area's newly vibrant roots music scene.

No doubt a new musical flavor will soon enough lure away some of the current Bluegrass Night crowd. But others, as they get older, may climb the two blocks to the Ark and hear the bluegrass bands presented there for more contemplative listening. Bluegrass Night is enough to warm the heart of an old 'grasser, and it continues Wednesday nights through November and beyond at the Circus.

—James M. Manheim

troit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **Nov. 11: Chris Genteel.** Rock and soul covers and originals by this local singer-songwriter. **Nov. 18: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley. Nov. 25:** No music.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996–8555

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Nov. 1: Needtobreathe.** South Carolina alternative rock quartet. Opening acts are **Serena Ryder,** a young Canadian folk-rock singer-songwriter whose confident, soulful voice sounds much older than her years, and **The Alternate Routes,** a guitar-fueled indie rock trio from Bridgeport, CT, known for its compact, melodic tunes with dark, intensely personal lyrics exploring a wide palette of emotions. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). 9 p.m.–1 a.m. **Nov. 2: Pinback.** Complex, cerebral, enchanting indie rock by this San Diego–based band whose music blends seductive melodies, deftly articulated guitar lines, and sparring vocal harmonies that are alternately sweet and straining. Opening act is **Joe Jack Talcum,** an indie punk singer-songwriter from Philadelphia best known as the founder of the Dead Milkmen. Advance tickets: $15. **Nov. 3: Dave Barnes.** *All ages admitted.* Soulful, R&B-inflected pop-rock by this Nashville-based singer-songwriter. Opening act TBA. Advance tickets: $12. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 4: Inkface.** Local electronica musician. Opening acts are **Snarky Puppy,** a Denton (TX) experimental jazz-funk band, and **I Love Dinosaurs,** a local electronica ensemble. **Nov. 5: State Radio.** *All ages admitted.* Socially conscious reggae-rock band from Massachusetts. Advance tickets: $18 (includes a copy of the band's new CD). **Nov. 6: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Nov. 7: OK Go.** Quirky, catchy, guitar-based power pop with smart, playful lyrics by this popular Chicago quartet. Opening act is **Princeton,** a California pop quartet. Advance tickets: $12. **Nov. 9: Ghostface Killah.** Veteran New York hip-hop MC best known as a member of the seminal 90s underground hip-hop ensemble Wu-Tang Clan. Opening acts are **Blu & Exile,** an L.A. hip-hop duo, and **Fashawn,** a California hip-hop MC. Advance tickets: $23. **Nov. 10: Jucifer.** *All ages admitted.* Sludge metal duo from Georgia fronted by vocalist Amber Valentine that's been described as an "aggressive Southern gothic version of PJ Harvey." Opening acts are **Minus 9,** an Ypsilanti hardcore band, and **The Plague Years,** a Lansing rock band. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 11: The Sins of Our Fathers.** Detroit metal-hardcore band. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti indie rock band **Skeleton Birds,** the Ypsilanti experimental noise band **Better Late than Pregnant,** and the psychedelic-pop quartet **Januzzi Watchmen. Nov. 12: The Javelins.** Detroit indie rock trio. Opening act is **Pop Project,** a Detroit-area indie pop-rock quartet. **Nov. 13: The Macpodz.** Immensely popular local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening act is **The Brew,** an Amesbury, MA, pop-rock quartet. Advance tickets $8 ($10 at the door). **Nov. 14: Souldub.** Reggae-flavored southern rock quartet. Advance tickets: $10 ($15 at the door). **Nov. 17: Brother Ali.** This acclaimed Minneapolis hip-hop MC is known for his resonant soul- and funk-flavored music, arrestingly expressive rapping, and ambitiously searching rhymes. *Pitchfork* calls him "one of the first great voices to emerge from the underground this century." Ali is accompanied by DJ BK-One. Opening acts are L.A. hip-hop MC **Essence** and Minneapolis hip-hop MC **Toki Wright.** Advance tickets: $13 ($15 at the door). **Nov. 18: Mass Solo Revolt.** Athens, GA, experimental postpunk band. Opening acts are **Bars of Gold,** a Ferndale pop-rock quintet, and **Wildcatting,** a Downriver punk band. **Nov. 19: The Wall Clocks.** Detroit indie rock band. Opening acts are **BandB,** a Plymouth folk-rock garage quintet, and **The Ultrasounds** (see Elbow Room). **Nov. 20: The Dirty Americans.** Detroit band whose heavy, guitar-driven rock 'n' roll has provoked comparisons to Helmet and the Rollins Band, Opening acts are **Lies Unknown,** a Clinton Township pop-punk quartet, and **Robots in the Garden,** a local rock quartet. **Nov. 21: Nickie P.** Soul-inflected hip-hop by Milford-bred MC Nicole Price. Opening acts are the popular local postpunk burlesque troupe **Tickled Fancy Burlesque Co.,** the Detroit southern rock band **Showdown,** and **Station DJs. Nov. 24: Mellows.** Local psychedelic folk-rock trio. Opening acts are **Square Boys,** a Redford blues-rock jam band, and **Ryan Horizon Band,** a Macomb County rock band. **Nov. 25: The Great Lakes Myth Society.** Local folk-rock sextet whose music is an eclectic mix of Appalachian music, prog-rock, and sea shanties. Opening acts are **Zoos of Berlin,** a Detroit experimental pop quintet whose influences range from Bowie and Eno to German pop, and **The High Strung** (see Elbow Room). **Nov. 26:** Closed. **Nov. 27: The Blue Rubys.** Classy local almost-all-female country-rock quintet. **Nov. 28: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock.

Café Habana

211 E. Washington 332–6046

The cellar bar of this downtown restaurant features salsa DJs, Thurs., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. & Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover, dancing.

The Circus

210 S. First St. 913–8890

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m., and live music or DJs on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club.** No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). Age 21 & older admitted. **Nov. 4: Who Hit John?** Kalamazoo acoustic folk & roots music band. **Nov. 7: Covert Operations.** Flint bluegrass-jam band. **Nov. 11:** TBA. **Nov. 14: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **Nov. 18: Woody Pines & the Terrible Two.** Asheville (NC) blues & roots music quartet. **Nov. 25: The Ragbirds.** Inventive local country-rock band, fronted by singer-songwriter Erin Zindle, whose music blends elements of world music, groove rock, and edgy pop, using a diverse mix of instruments, including violin, mandolin, banjo, accordion, acoustic guitar, and percussion elements from around the world, as well as the old-fashioned drumkit. The band has a new CD, *Finally Almost Ready.* **Nov. 28: Killer Flamingos.** See above. In the Millennium Club.

Club Above

215 N. Main 663–7758

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sat., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m., and live happy hour bands on Fri., 6:15–8:30 p.m. Also, DJ on Fri. and charity poker on Sun.–Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & over only unless otherwise noted. **Nov. 5: "Samba Soul Evolutions."** DJ Ike plays records exploring the progressions from Brazilian rhythms to Northern soul and rock 'n' roll. **Nov. 6** (6:15–8:30 p.m.)**: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. **Nov. 7: Mars Attacks.** Rare U.S. tour by this Swiss rockabilly quartet that has backed everyone from Sun rockabilly legends Sonny Burgess and Billy Lee Riley to Rosie "The Rockabilly Filly" Flores. Opening act is **Rockabilly Strangers,** a Farmington rockabilly trio. WCBN DJ **Del Villareal** plays vintage rockabilly records between sets. **Nov. 12: "Local Music Night."** Showcase of local bands TBA. **Nov. 13** (6:15–8:30 p.m.)**: Sounds of the Czars.** Local Tiki-flavored surf-rock lounge quartet. **Nov. 14: Gaba Gaba Hey.** Ramones tribute band from Chicago. Opening acts are the grunge-inflected Detroit rock 'n' roll band **The Ruiners,** the local rock 'n' roll quartet **Lawn Care,** and the Wyandotte psychedelic neo–New Wave band **Ken's Lawn Band. Nov. 19: Manhole.** Ypsilanti band that plays edgy glam-rock. Opening acts are **Tokyo Sexwhale,** an Ottawa punk-metal quartet, and **Patrick "Hip Hop" Elkins,** an Ypsilanti singer-songwriter. **Nov. 20** (6:15–8:30 p.m.)**: Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band led by singer-guitarist Michael Smith. **Nov. 21: Borax.** Reunion of this uncompromisingly silly mid-90s local quintet that blends lurching rhythms, warped hardcore tunes, occasional lapses into tastefully executed lounge-trash, and lost-love/horror-movie lyrics. Opening acts are **Voodoo Lawnmowers,** a (locally) legendary mid-80s punk band, and **Blammo,** a veteran local sextet that plays a blend of wickedly humorous, socially observant originals and choice punk covers by the likes of Patti Smith, the Dead Kennedys, X, and the Ramones. **Nov. 25: The Ultrasounds.** See Elbow Room. Tonight the band previews material from its forthcoming new CD. This show is in the first-floor Alpine Dining Room. **Nov. 26:** Closed. **Nov. 27:** (6:15–8:30 p.m.)**: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. **Nov. 28: "Plastic Passion."** DJ retro dance party with an eclectic mix of everything from New Wave, Britpop, and postpunk to acid house, goth rock, and industrial.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw 327–6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment Fri., 8–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. November schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665–2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Sun., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Nov. 5: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Nov. 7: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by veteran local singer-songwriter Jerry Sprague's 2 sons. **Nov. 12: Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly bop covers. **Nov. 14: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Nov. 19: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Nov. 21: Lucas Paul Band.** See Melange. **Nov. 26:** Closed. **Nov. 28: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665–9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. **Nov. 6: Jeni Lee Richey & Carrie Shepard.** Folk noir and neo–honky-tonk originals by this local singer-songwriter duo, who are joined by various guest musicians. **Nov. 7:** TBA. **Nov. 13: Team Love.** Local trio led by singer-songwriter and bassist **Tim Berla** that plays originals and covers in an eclectic mix of styles, from jazz, swing, and Latin to country. With clarinetist and percussionist Charles Dayringer and guitarist Kip Godwin and guest vocalist **Julia Papastavridis.** The show begins with a solo set by Berla. **Nov. 14: John Churchville & Meeta Banerjee.** North Indian classical music by tabla player Churchville and sitarist Banerjee. **Nov. 20: Rochelle Clark & John Natiw.** Americana roots music duo of Chelsea singer-songwriter Clark and Canton singer-songwriter Natiw. **Nov. 21: Nathan K.** Local indie pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Nov. 27: Mojoe Boes & His Noble Jones.** Toledo jazz-blues fusion ensemble. **Nov. 28:** TBA.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. 827–2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 29: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6:30–9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington
Ypsilanti 657–2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music, 9–11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. November schedule TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington,
Ypsilanti 483–6374

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.–Thurs., 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover ($5 suggested donation), dancing. **Every Sun: Todd Osborne.** Detroit-area electronic musician. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Every Thurs.** (except Nov. 26)**: "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure

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and awesome songs." **Nov. 3: "Tiki Tuesday."** The Elbow Room Tiki Tuesday band plays surf music and various exotica. Also, performance by the belly dancer **Aurora** and magician **Scarboni. Nov. 4: Theodore.** Country-folk Americana with a distinct Mexican flavor by this quartet from St. Louis led by singer-songwriter Justin Kinkel-Schuster. "Like the songs of Will Oldham and Jason Molina, there is a melding of antiquated and modern styles, and the songs that result tell stories and set moods with minimal accoutrements," says *Riverfront Times* critic Christian Schaeffer in his review of the band's debut CD *Songs of the Weary*. Opening acts are **Misty Lyn,** a local country-inflected folk-rock band led by singer-songwriter Lyn, and **Annie Palmer,** an Ypsilanti folk-style indie singer-songwriter. **Nov. 6: The Ultrasounds.** Highly regarded local futuristic retro-rock trio. Opening acts are **Caught in Motion,** a Portland (OR) acoustic pop trio, and another band TBA. **Nov. 7: Amino Acids.** Detroit punk-surf garage band. Opening acts are **Invader,** an Ypsilanti hardcore band, and **Jehovah's Witness Protection Program,** a local acoustic pop-folk band. **Nov. 10: "No More Bunk Parties."** DJs Scarboni and VJCC spin soul, funk, and rock 'n' roll records. **Nov. 11: Secret Twins.** Local garage punk quartet. Opening acts are Lexington (KY) singer-songwriter **Chris Soulis,** the Detroit psychedelic Americana band **Bad Medicine at the Campfire,** and Detroit punk singer-songwriter **Kommie Kilpatrick. Nov. 13: The High Strung.** Brooklyn (MI) trio that plays dark, crafty pop with psychedelic overtones. The band won praise from *Rolling Stone*, which cited its "gift for nervy, agitated melodies that get under your skin as much as they make you hum along." **Nov. 14:** TBA. **Nov. 17: "The Cycle."** DJs Blakguts and Joe Vargas spin funk, soul, and indie dance records. **Nov. 18: "Robota Revolt."** An evening of electonic music with **Oppfor,** a Detroit electro-industrial band, and **Eprom Colony,** a Detroit electronica band. **Nov. 20: Idol & the Whip.** Local rock trio. Opening acts are the Chicago psychedelic-metal band **Atlas Moth,** the St. Augustine psychedelic-metal band **Dark Castle,** and the Ferndale noise-metal band **Ganon. Nov. 21: The Detroit Red Wings Present Open Skate.** With **Awesome Color,** an Ann Arbor–bred psychedelic garage rock trio now based in Brooklyn (NY), and **Tyvek,** a Detroit post-punk rock quintet. The music begins after the end of the Red Wings game. Also, sale of Red Wings tickets and merchandise. **Nov. 24: "Elbow Deep."** Gay and lesbian gala with Detroit DJ **Humanfly. Nov. 25: Sisters of Your Sunshine Vapor.** Local psychedelic-blues garage trio formerly known as Sik Sik Nation. Opening acts are **Blues Snaggletooth,** a local rock band that includes members of Mazinga and other area bands, and another band TBA. **Nov. 27:** TBA. **Nov. 28: Matt Jones.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **Chris Bathgate,** a local singer-songwriter who writes heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods, and another band TBA.

Saline fiddle virtuoso Jeremy Kittel is joined by his band in celebration of their debut CD at the Ark Nov. 8.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **752–5740**

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live music Tues.–Thurs. & occasional Fri. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m., DJ Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Jazz/Funk Jam Session.** Hosted by Macpodz bassist Brennan Andes. **Every Thurs.: Brandon Calhoon.** Rock 'n' roll, soul, and blues by this Detroit singer-songwriter. **Nov. 4: Brett Levy & Momenta.** Acoustic funk ensemble. **Nov. 6** (5–8 p.m.)**: "5:01 Jazz Series."** With the **Royal Garden Trio, a** local trio led by guitarist Brian Delaney that plays early jazz standards and Hot Club–style gypsy jazz. With cellist Michael Karoub and clarinetist and tenor guitarist Tom Bogardus. **Nov. 6: Arcadia.** Reggae-inflected pop-rock quartet from Flint. **Nov. 11: Big Blue Cosmic.** Textured instrumentals performed on the guitar-harp, electric cello, and guitar by local musician Dan Orcutt. **Nov. 18 & 25: Mike Vial.** Acoustic pop-rock singer-songwriter from Howell.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 6: The Terraplanes.** See Conor O'Neill's. **Nov. 7: Chef Chris & the Rumpshakers.** Local blues band. **Nov. 13: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Nov. 14: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Nov. 20: Bobby Murray Band.** R&B band led by singer-guitarist Murray, who is the regular guitarist in Etta James's band. **Nov. 21: The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Nov. 27: Johnny Reed & the Houserockers.** Toledo blues band led by singer and blues harpist Reed. **Nov. 28: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style blends elements of Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Nov. 3: Double Take.** Versatile Hartland blues, rock, and country trio fronted by vocalist Dani Dancer. **Nov. 4 & 5: Justine Blazer.** Acoustic duo led by this Detroit country-rock singer-songwriter. **Nov. 6 & 7: Starfarm.** 80s covers by this East Lansing retro rock and pop quintet. **Nov. 10–12: Identical Strangers.** Classic rock by the Windsor duo of vocalist Danielle Samson and guitarist Scott Giles. **Nov. 13 & 14: Ultraviolet.** Detroit band that plays 70s & 80s rock hits. **Nov. 17–21: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing. **Nov. 24–26: JoyRide.** Detroit dance band. **Nov. 27 & 28: Bugs Beddow Band.** Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad **764–8558**

Informal student-dominated cafe, also known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Nov. 6: Metal Frat.** Local punk-metal band. Opening acts are the Baltimore (MD) grindcore-pop band **Abiku,** plus **Scissor Now** and another band TBA. **Nov. 13: Friendly Foes.** Ferndale indie powerpop trio. Opening acts are **City Center,** a New York City–based experimental pop-rock jam duo of Saturday Looks Good to Me frontman Fred Thomas and Ryan Howard, and **Drunken Barn Dance,** a local experimental alt-country and folk-rock band.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **752–5740**

This lounge features live music Sun. 5–8 p.m., Wed. 8 p.m.–midnight & occasional other nights; karaoke with a live band Thurs., 9 p.m.–midnight; & DJs Fri.–Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Wed.: Los Gatos.** Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band led by drummer Pete Siers that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 1950s mambo craze. With beginning (8:45 p.m.) & intermediate (10 p.m.) dance lessons and a dance contest (11 p.m.) with prizes. **Nov. 6: Mia Dyson.** Acclaimed Australian blues-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist with a resonantly husky voice. 7–9 p.m. **Nov. 14: Ingrid Racine.** Jazz quintet led by this local trumpeter. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. **Nov. 20: Dave Sharp's Secret Seven.** Straight-ahead jazz by this ensemble led by veteran local bassist Sharp. Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD, a collection of jazz, rock, and funk standards. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Nov. 21: Heather Schwartz.** Vintage jazz & blues by this local singer. 7–10 p.m.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, DJs on Fri. & Sat. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Nov. 1: Dave Boutette.** Local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. **Nov. 8: Floodlights.** Bluegrass fusion by members of the Bearded Ladies. **Nov. 15: Ypsitucky Colonels.** Local garage dance band whose music mixes country, blues, funk, and rock flavors. Members are Corndaddy guitarist Will Stewart and 3 former Boomerangs—guitarist R Baker, bassist Tom "Sugar" Robbins, and drummer Adam Berg. **Nov. 22: Bob Skon.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Nov. 29: Catfish Mafia.** Detroit bluegrass quintet.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues., 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. 8–10 p.m. **Nov. 3: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Nov. 10: "Anything Goes Open Stage & Song Circle."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Nov. 24: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Sat., 7–10 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Nov. 7 & 14: Wendy Cusick.** Alt-rock singer who is accompanied by her husband, acoustic guitarist Greg Cusick. **Nov. 12: Hal Davis & the High Def Band.** Local classic rock band. 6:30–9 p.m. **Nov. 21 & 28:** TBA.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Tues. 7–11 p.m., Thurs. & Fri. 8 p.m.–midnight, & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Tues.: The Witch Doctors.** This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show*, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." **Every Thurs.** (except Nov. 26)**: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Every Fri.: John Latini & Friends.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, who is joined by different guest musicians TBA each week. **Nov. 7** (6–8 p.m.)**: Ann Arbor Music Center Rock Band.** Adult student musicians perform classic and modern rock covers. **Nov. 7: Soundhound.** Local funk-rock band. **Nov. 14** (6–8 p.m.)**: Ann Arbor Music Center Rock Band.** See above. **Nov. 14: "Crossroads Festival Benefit."** With bands TBA. **Nov. 21: Alejandra O'Leary.** Local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter who has been compared to Liz Phair and Lucinda Williams. She has an acclaimed new CD, *Nothing Out Loud*. **Nov. 28: Tracy Mack & the Magic Land Band.** Local folk-rock and blues-rock band led by singer-songwriter Mack. ■

Classifieds & Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✍=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

Women Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Bright, slim, caring **SWPF** ISO true gentleman for friendship, maybe more. RSVP soon. 5786✍

Attractive, fun, spiritual **SWPF** ISO my honest, compassionate, non-commitment-phobic counterpart, 45–60. Must like long walks, blah, blah. 5792✍

Men Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

SWM/WW II vet (AA resident) seeks local SF (any hue), in 60s/70s (fit to serve as voluntary first mate in his 42-foot houseboat—no boating experience necessary). 6-person crew will share expenses on cruise from FL Keys to Port Huron, MI, and beyond. Captain is widower/sailor/writer/theater/cycler/swimmer. Request snail mail reply. Photo okay, but not required. 5791✍

SWM, 52, handsome, clean, sober. good values/lifestyle. Loves music, nature, liberal politics, spiritual pursuits. Seeks LTR with similar 50-something woman. 5790✍

Seeking DIANA. We chatted in Lowe's in May. Want to chat more, maybe over coffee? 5787✍

SWM, 59, gray teddy bear, seeks a honey for chess, jazz, BBQs, and more. 5775✍

DWM, 70 years young, 195 lbs., 5'11", attractive, home-centered. Enjoys music, movies, travel. ISO slender A, H, or WF for LTR. 5689✍

Friendships

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

Women Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box

Men Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

PERSONAL LETTER RESPONSE
$3 per letter
See Instruction Box.

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General Personals

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB
Spots are still available on our Winter 2010 Western ski trips. Hurry and join in on the fun! Visit www.a2skiclub.org and click on trips and activities.

Employment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

NEED A GOOD JOB?
Would you like the ability to earn what you are worth in a business where personal initiative and hustle are rewarded? Does the chance to work with no boss breathing down your neck appeal to you? Wouldn't it be nice to have some flexibility in your schedule, working a little more when extra money is needed, working a little less when the family needs you? You've probably never considered driving a taxicab, have you? But things are different at Ann Arbor Yellow Cab. We're not like the big city taxi companies. We're not even like the other taxi companies in our area. We strive to treat our drivers with respect and handle financial matters professionally, and we have lots of customers who need you. We are in need of additional drivers who can meet our standards. You need to be a drug-free safe driver with a good driving record, clean criminal history, good work record, and you need to be dedicated to *outstanding* customer service. Day, night, and weekend shifts are available now. Please apply online at www.selectride.com.

For Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Mitchell Elementary PTO Mom to Mom Sale: Sat., Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 3450 Pittsview Dr., Ann Arbor, MI. Selling gently used baby and children's clothes, toys, books, and furniture. We still have space available to sell. Please call (734) 434–9130 for more information.

Entertainment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

★ CLASSICAL HARP MUSIC ★
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Mr. Vegas Man X-mas Music Party: Home/Office. (734) 971–3100. heysantacd.com.

Wanted

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS
Interview subjects for U-M research study on Jewish identity. Must be born Jewish, 25–65 yrs. old, raised in America, and unaffiliated with the Jewish community. Contact Aura, (734) 846–2826.

Lessons & Workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

ANN ARBOR AREA PIANO TEACHERS GUILD
for referrals to qualified professional piano teachers. All levels and ages, 665–5346. aaaptg.googlepages.com.

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Piano and Guitar Lessons. Double degreed music teacher. Pittsfield Township. (734) 646–2740.

Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Climate Control Indoor Storage
490 S. Maple, Ann Arbor. Next to Kroger.
662–5262. www.ccindoorstorage.com.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 91? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor.* One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, November 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

Services

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★ Construction Debris—Recycled ★
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Giving the time and effort you deserve every cleaning. Karla, (734) 231–2050.

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German-style housecleaning. Dependable, thorough, and stellar references. Serving the greater Ann Arbor area since 1989, cleaning and organizing apartments, houses, and offices. Experienced in customized hoarding relief. Independent cleaner—call Monika at (517) 414–9440 for rates and availability.

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Outdoors

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Property for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

For Sale: 11+ acres on Liberty Rd. at Park Rd. (517) 522–3378.

Homes for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

Homes for Rent

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Commercial

The **Classifieds deadline** for the December issue is November 10.

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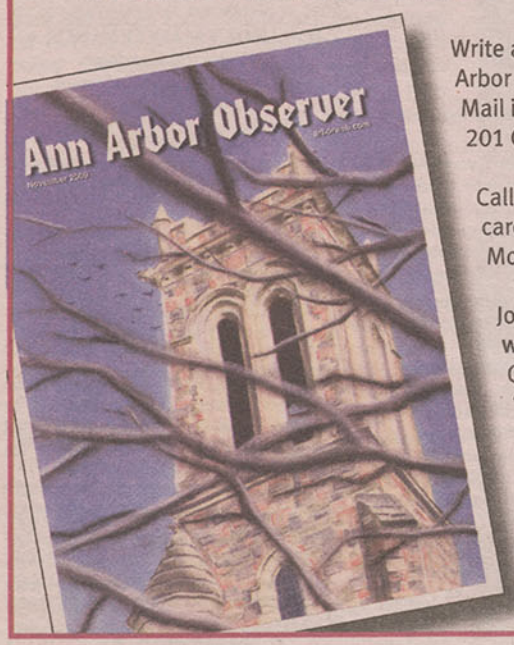

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NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32 acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. $1,495,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NW ANN ARBOR – This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walkout basement. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP – Serenity surrounds you at this stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 ½-bath custom-built home on 7.5 gorgeous acres. The property is very special featuring a flowing stream, forest, extensive landscaping, decks, and patio. The home features only the finest throughout including two-story foyer with sweeping stair, gourmet kitchen, two-story great room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ARBORETUM FRONTAGE – Your backyard is The Arb with your own private entrance at this truly exquisite 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath completely renovated home. One of only a few dozen homes with true frontage this home features expansive decking, the nicest screened porch in town, and extensive renovation including maple kitchen with granite, master retreat with sitting room, office, and dream bath, and finished walkout basement. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

KING SCHOOL AREA – This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath 1800s farmhouse rests on a gorgeous acre lot, just minutes to UM and hospitals. The setting is gorgeous featuring expansive lawn, mature gardens, fruit trees, and playhouse. The interior has undergone substantial renovation yet maintains its original charm. Additions with kitchen, family room, and master bedroom add a modern feel. $569,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Gorgeous custom-built home overlooking the 7th fairway at Stonebridge. Very current home loaded with quality upgrades inside and out. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large patio, and expansive views. Interior features extremely open floor plan with vaulted ceilings in most rooms, two-story great room, gourmet kitchen with granite, luxury first-floor master suite, and unique bonus room. $569,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Absolutely gorgeous 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath, custom-built builder's model home in Huntington Woods. This home is loaded with quality upgrades throughout. Features include two-story foyer and family room, cherry kitchen with 11' ceilings and granite counters, extensive trim and molding, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

JACKSON – incredible 4-bedroom, 4-bath custom-built home in the Sanctuary at Brills Lake, one of Jackson's most desired subs. This 2004 Parade of Homes entry is loaded with custom features and amenities including 2-story family room with wall of windows, kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, den, luxury master suite, and gorgeous wooded lot. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – This 4-bedroom, 6-bath 2002 Showcase of Homes entry on a quiet, interior, cul-de-sac lot is loaded with quality features and amenities. You will love this home. Features include two-story foyer, custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, den, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. $419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK PALCE – Spectacular 4-bedroom, 3.2-bath custom-built colonial on a spacious acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. This home is just perfect inside and out including extensive landscaping and patio. Interior features 9' ceilings, open family room, den, sun room, luxury master suite, and finished basement. You will love it!! $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BARTON HILLS AREA – New construction just minutes from downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WATERWAYS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial on a quiet, wooded cul-de-sac deep within the neighborhood. Wonderful setting with large backyard, large deck, and professional landscaping. The interior of this home has been completely redone. Features include remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops, extensive hardwood floor, luxury master suite, and beautifully finished lower level. Saline Schools. $394,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKEWOOD – This classic 1920s Tudor has been restored back to its original grandeur. The setting features extensive landscaping, oversized deck, and great backyard. Interior features all hardwood floors, living room fireplace, sunroom, formal dining, new kitchen with granite, nice master suite, and finished basement. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LOCH ALPINE – Quality built 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home with panoramic views of Ann Arbor Country Club golf course. Wonderful hill top setting gives some of the best views you'll see. Interior features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite, and finished basement. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This perfectly maintained and nicely update 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home in Rolling Hills is one of the best values on the market today. Gorgeous setting backs to open space and has a pond view. Incredible space with over 4,000 sq. ft. of living area. Interior features include oversized living room and dining room, den, open kitchen, family room with 10' ceilings, large master suite, and finished walkout basement. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HAWTHORNE RIDGE – Wonderful 4-bedroom, 3½-bath colonial in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Great exterior with extensive landscaping, large backyard, and view of trees. The interior features open kitchen with white appliances, family room with vaulted ceiling, formal living room and dining room, nice master suite, and professionally finished lower level. $309,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath former builder's model home in Sandhill Estates is loaded with quality upgrades. Great design featuring two-story foyer, open great room, large kitchen with island, first-floor master suite with sitting area, and three-car garage. $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – This is not your typical Ann Arbor ranch. Backing to Pioneer woods, this home has been completely remodeled and expanded. Perfect for a single person or a couple, this home features a huge master suite overlooking the woods with upgraded bath, the backyard is all deck with sitting areas and complete privacy, finished basement, and more. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DEXTER – Very sharp 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in one of the area's sharpest looking complexes. These units were built with great flair inside and out. Features include raised ceilings throughout, great room with fireplace, convenient den, spacious kitchen, nice master suite, and walkout basement. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Your own country oasis awaits you at this move-in condition 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home. Enjoy the gorgeous park-like setting just minutes from everything. This home is perfect and features living room with vaulted ceiling, family room with fireplace, and nice master suite. Gorgeous!! $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – Classic 4-bedroom, 1-bath turn-of-the-century farmhouse on 3 peaceful acres just minutes to I-94 and US-23. This home is in need of substantial updating but is structurally sound and loaded with charm and character. You will love the oversized moldings and hardwood floors. Large hip-roof barn. Perfect for the handyman. $199,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Perfectly maintained and nicely updated 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath ranch on 2.94 acres within walking distance to downtown Manchester. You'll love the park-like setting. Interior features include great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, spacious kitchen, formal dining room, nice master suite, and partially finished walkout basement. $199,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WARNER CREEK- This 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods is one of the best buys on the market today. Sharp home features living room and family room both with fireplaces, kitchen with eat-in area, formal dining room, nice master suite, and good sized kids bedrooms. $189,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

OLD WEST SIDE – Walk to downtown Ann Arbor and UM stadium from this 2-bedroom, 1-bath ranch. Great lot featuring oversized, 2-tiered backyard. This nicely updated and maintained home features hardwood floors, good sized rooms, and loads of charm. $159,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Matt Dejanovich has been a resident and realtor in Ann Arbor and its surrounding communities for over 20 years. In that time he has become one of the top producing agents at Real Estate One, the largest real estate brokerage in the state. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his customers.

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SALINE – This is one of the premier residences on the market today. Custom-built for the 2004 Showcase of Homes this home has all the features and amenities you've hoped for. Incredible lot with pool, hot tub, and large patio. The interior is spectacular including great room with 12' ceilings, gourmet kitchen with Viking appliances, den, luxury master suite, bonus room, and finished lower level with rec room, bar and theater. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Truly spectacular 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath custom-built home resting on an a stately 2.2 acre parcel just west of town. This home features every conceivable amenity including dream kitchen with maple cabinets and professional grade appliances, two-story family room, cherry trim and floors, luxury master suite, smart house technology, Gunite pool, 5-car garage space, and more. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DIXBORO FARMS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath new construction on a gorgeous 2-acre estate lot in this popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. Quality features everywhere including all brick exterior, cherry kitchen with granite counters, extensive custom molding and trim, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $849,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Very special 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath custom-built home on a peaceful acre lot in York Township. This home has every feature and amenity you've been hoping for including all brick exterior, extensive landscaping, gourmet kitchen, paneled den, luxury first-floor master suite, nanny suite, and finished lower level with bar, rec room, and study. Wow! $749,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – CENTENNIAL PARK - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath, custom-built home in a Saline School's desired subs. This home features wonderful space with over 3,600 square feet of living area. Features include two-story foyer, dual staircases, open kitchen, large formal living and dining rooms, and luxurious master suite. Within walking distance to Harvest Elementary. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE – Very sharp 3-bedroom, 1½-bath detached condo in the Crescents backing to wooded common area. This unit is just perfect featuring 3-car garage, open kitchen with granite counter tops, great room with 10' ceiling and fireplace, first-floor master suite with luxury bath, guest suite, study, and flex use bonus room $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PINCKNEY – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home with 90 ft. of frontage on Highland Lake. This home is just paradise with panoramic views of lake and 11,000 acres of state owned land. The interior is loaded featuring oversized great room, maple kitchen with granite, and dream master suite. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Gorgeous interior features large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LAKE FOREST – Stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath former builder's model home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large deck, and patio. Interior features two-story family room, ample hardwood floors, den, kitchen with granite counter tops, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement with large rec space, study, and bath. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – OLD WEST SIDE – Stunning 3 BR, 2 BA classic home walking distance to downtown Ann Arbor. This home has all the charm and character you've been hoping for plus extensive recent renovation. Features include incredible oversized backyard, all natural trim, extensive hardwood floors, and Custom kitchen with granite counters. $359,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK PLACE – Stunning 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath, two-story on a spacious acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great lot featuring extensive landscaping, oversized patio, and large backyard. Interior features include two-story foyer and family room, open kitchen with cherry cabinets, den, luxury master suite, and finished basement with great multi-use rec space. $359,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – Spectacular 3-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built ranch on a peaceful 2.2 acre setting, just north of town. Great quality home loaded with upgrades and amenities. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling, large kitchen, parlor, luxury master suite with sitting room, and finished basement with rec room, study, and bath. 2 ½-car attached garage plus 3-car detached garage. Perfect for hobbies. $359,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – Enjoy your own 40-acre private get-away in this modest 3-bedroom, 1-bath home. The land is spectacular and features open meadows and dense woods. Potential for land split also exists. Perfect home for an outdoor enthusiast. Home is older and has lots of charm. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 3-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Incredible backyard view with fully developed pond including large deck, extensive patios, and gorgeous landscaping. The interior is sharp including great room with vaulted ceiling and two-story fireplace, spacious kitchen with Corian counters, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $269,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – HOMETOWN VILLAGE – Enjoy incredible views of nature, woods, and a pond from this super sharp 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's best neighborhoods. Wonderful home with large open great room, spacious kitchen with extra high ceilings, large deck with incredible view, and a nice master suite with walk-in closet. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100**

MANCHESTER – Are you looking for your own private hideaway just 15 minutes from Ann Arbor? This is it! Gorgeous 5-acre wooded parcel with many old growth oak trees. Home features great room with vaulted ceiling and wood stove, open kitchen, 2 first-floor bedrooms, master suite upstairs with large loft, and partially finished basement with view out windows. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

FORD LAKE FRONTAGE - Enjoy panoramic bluff top views of Ford Lake from this remodeled and expanded 3-bedroom colonial. Lake front living at its finest with multiple decks and patios and a gorgeous all-sports lake. Home features added family room with vaulted ceiling and hardwood floor, central kitchen, spacious master bedroom, and finished basement. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

U-M CAMPUS – Perfect student rental within close walking distance to the Athletic Campus and Central Campus. Six-bedroom single family home perfect for a group of students to share. This home has a great rental history and represents a great opportunity to own income property. $225,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BRIARWOOD AREA – Like-new 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in this perfect location quick to shopping, U-M, and freeways. This unit is loaded with upgrades including cherry kitchen with granite countertops. Nice floor plan features open living room, spacious bedrooms, and flex-use family room/study. $212,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – CHELSEA – Charming early century 3-bedroom, 1-bath farmhouse on 2.5 peaceful acres on the east side of Chelsea. Quick access to I-94. Property is gorgeous and has the potential for horses. Home is loaded with old world charm with wood floors, oversized molding, large living room with fireplace, and family room with wood stove. $199,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE- Rare find. Country ranch on a peaceful acre lot on the north side of Saline, just minutes to I-94. Solid brick ranch in need of some cosmetic updates. Great starter home includes large backyard, 2 car garage, living room, den, and full basement. $149,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE - Immaculate 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in Park Place. Enjoy this peaceful condo complex just a short walk to downtown Saline. This unit is in perfect, move-in condition and features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, flex-use first-floor bedroom, second-floor master bedroom loft, 1 ½-car attached garage, and full basement. Great unit. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – Rare find!! Three-bedroom, 1-bath brick ranch, in need of some cosmetic updating, on a peaceful 1 ¼ acre lot just minutes from town. Great setting on a very quiet country road. Home has solid bones with a large living room, kitchen with eating area, and three good sized bedrooms. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Great 2-bedroom, 1 ½-bath condo in perfect move-in condition. This unit has a great set of features and amenities. The highlights include cherry kitchen, spacious living room, spacious master suite with walk-in closet, and full basement. $125,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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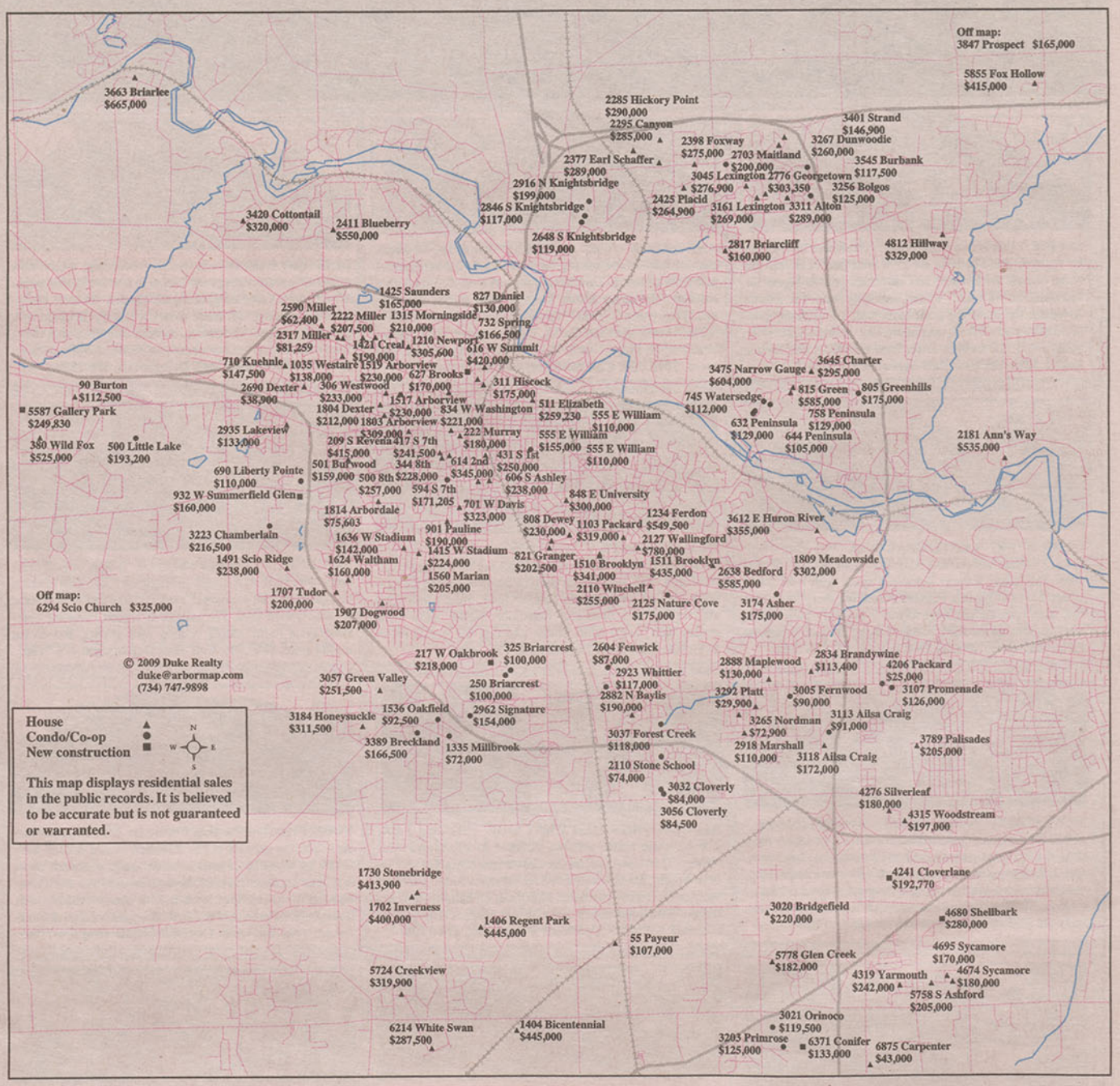
SEPTEMBER 2009 HOME SALES

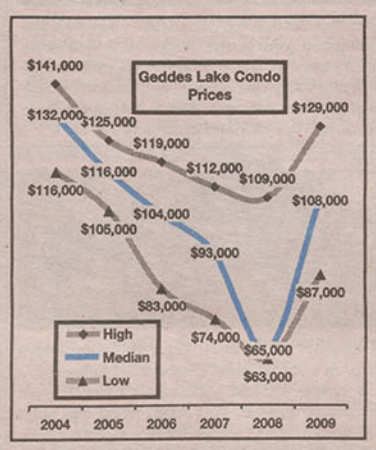


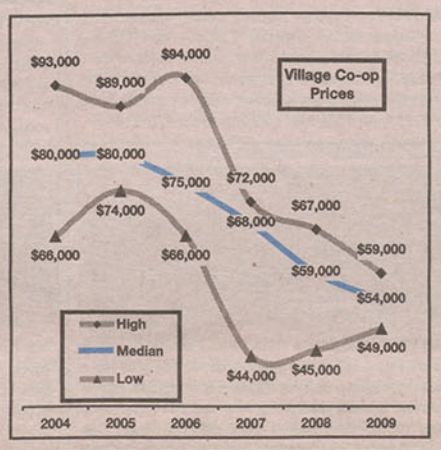
The competition between mortgage lenders shifted to the advantage of the home team in 2009, as global titans Chase and Bank of America were outperformed by local underdogs United Bank & Trust and Bank of Ann Arbor. The accompanying chart (bottom right) is based on real estate mortgages recorded in the city of Ann Arbor during the first eight months of this year.

Ann Arbor State Bank finished in sixth place thanks to commercial mortgages—an achievement all the more impressive since this new kid on the block, which started business in January, so quickly surpassed established commercial lenders like Comerica, KeyBank, and Michigan Commerce Bank (formerly Ann Arbor Commerce Bank). Older lenders tied down by loans made during better days may be lending less now in order to shore up their balance sheets.

Financing issues helped motivate Geddes Lakes' conversion from co-op to condo last year. The accompanying chart (below left) illustrates a dramatic increase in the townhouses' selling prices, based on a sample of eleven two-bedroom units. While the link between conversion and price is speculative, it's worth noting that the Village, the city's other big housing co-op (see chart, below center), saw no comparable rebound—though our sample this year is very small, with just two sales of two-bedroom, one-bath units.

—Kevin Duke





Rank	Ann Arbor's Top Mortgage Lenders Jan.-Aug. 2009	Loans
1	United Bank & Trust	18
2	Bank of Ann Arbor	16
3	Bank of America (Countrywide)	12
4	Flagstar	10
5	Chase	9
6	Ann Arbor State Bank	6
7	Huron Valley Financial	5
	MidWest Financial Credit Union (UMHSFCU)	5
9	Citizens Bank (RBS)	4
	Comerica	4
	Michigan Commerce Bank	4
	Wells Fargo	4
	Gold Star	3
14	KeyBank	3
	University of Michigan Credit Union	3

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Ann Arbor Observer
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and e) ▶			60,480	58,824
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4, (page #3)) ▶			1,187	1,176
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)			61,667	60,000
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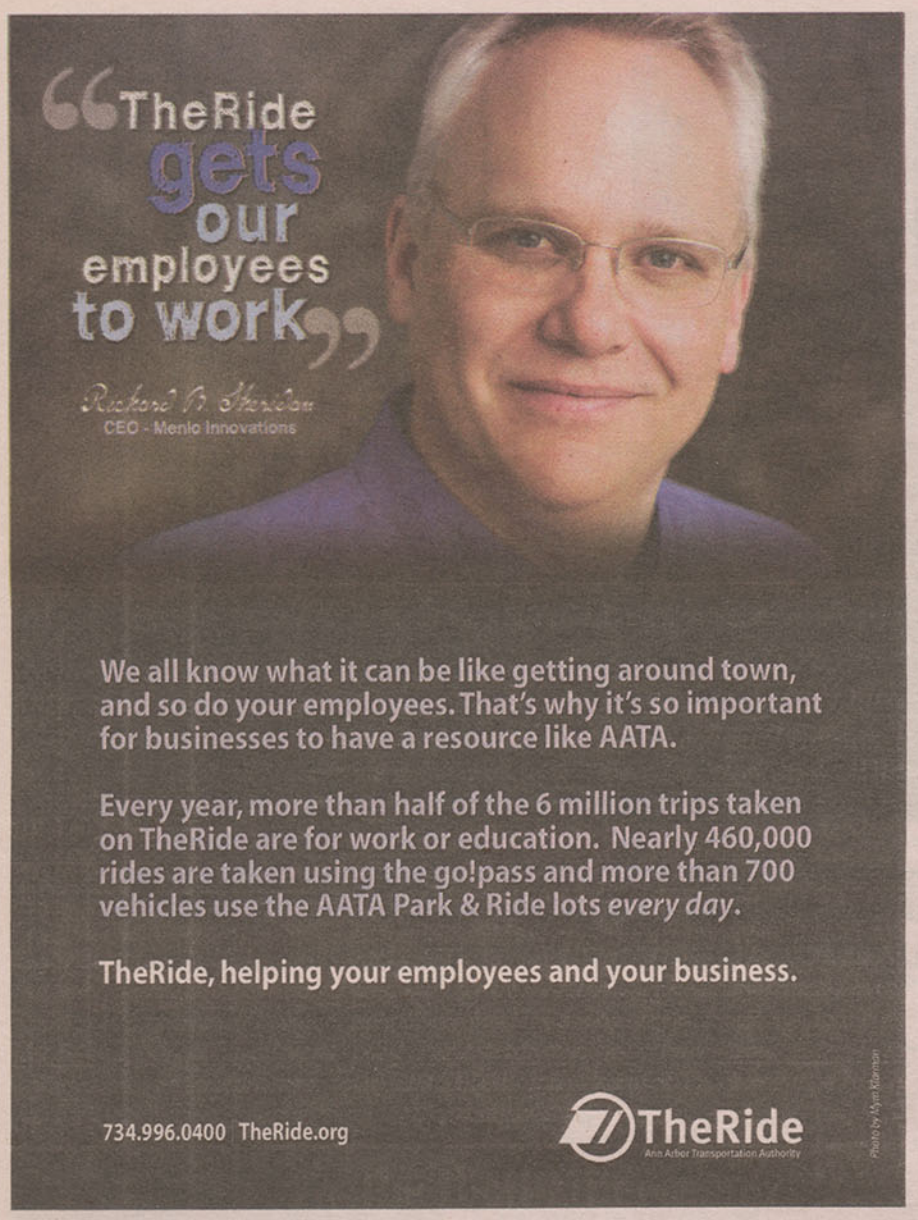
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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

A Temple for Runners on Jackson

Running Fit's new HQ

The new headquarters of **Running Fit** on Jackson Road, which serves as both retail store and warehouse space, is the former Church of the Nazarene. That seems entirely fitting. For Randy Step running is a religion, and the bouncy, skin-and-bones Step is an evangelistic preacher.

Step, fifty-three, owns Running Fit along with Steve Angerman, fifty. With this new location, they now have seven stores in southeast Michigan. "But we're really 50 percent an event company," says Step, who has so much energy he runs every day and jumps around when he talks. Under the Running Fit umbrella (which has somehow spawned, according to Step, twenty-seven websites) are classes, group runs, races, and anything else Step and Angerman can think of to drag people into running mania. "We trick other people into the sport so that they become passionate runners," Step says. "They wear out shoes and buy more. That's our business plan."

Their original store is on East Liberty, but Step thinks this newest location, at 5,700 square feet (about half of it devoted to warehouse and offices), may supplant it as the flagship. It was a big investment. "I'm nervous," he says. "It's the first thing I've ever owned that's over a million dollars," but with government incentives, he couldn't turn down the opportunity. He didn't make any structural changes to the 1979 church, basically a pole barn, but "we put a lot of lipstick on this thing," adding windows and facing it with stone. In front there's still a cross, covered up by a plywood sign.

In spite of his waggish way of talking about his businesses, Step preaches a serious, technical approach to running and dismisses a lot of shoe innovation as fad. The fads, he says, are always about impact and shock absorption, but "all shoes on the market handle impact about the same." What matters is how a shoe deals with the foot's torque, or pronation, as it goes through a step cycle. Running Fit's specialty is finding a good match between runner and shoe.

Step has no plans to close the Liberty store (he also owns that building), even though it's a block away from another running store, Tortoise and Hare, owned by a former employee of his. "It's good to have a competitor," he says. "It gives the customer options. If you get mad at me for something, you can go over there."

Running Fit, 5700 Jackson Rd. 929–9022. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun. noon–5 p.m. www.runningfit.net

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Running evangelist Randy Step at Running Fit's new west-side store. "We trick other people into the sport so they become passionate runners," he says. "They wear out shoes and buy more. That's our business plan."

Asian with a Side of Cajun

Phet Young revels in the possibilities.

Phet Young owned Jasmine Thai & China Bistro in Saline for five years. Where was it? "That's what everybody ask!" she laughs, delighted that her point has been made for her. "We tuck all the way behind CVS. It so hard for people to find."

Young, who is a mix of Southeast Asian nationalities, mainly Thai and Laotian, speaks five languages. She speaks English rapidly and urgently, tossing away the smaller words and syllables that get in her way. She's lively and gregarious, unlike her husband, who is so shy she refuses to even give his name. "He say, 'Don't put me there!' He so shy. He real shy guy, but really good cook!" Of mainly Chinese ethnicity and raised in Cambodia, he too is a Southeast Asian polyglot.

Once their Saline lease was up, Young (whose first name is more or less pronounced Pat—"just don't call me 'fat'," she says) and her nameless husband loaded up their three kids (ages fourteen, thirteen, and eleven) and moved to Ann Arbor to open a restaurant that people could find. Their **Asian Fuzion Café** opened at the end of September in the former Greeko's Coney-Grill, in Pittsfield Plaza on Washtenaw next to Falsetta's Market. They did some smart and strategic redecorating—a soothing fountain in the tiny foyer, potted orchids, a paint job, and gentler lighting all signal a step up from Greeko's clattering diner ambience. But Phet Young is no aesthetic purist. A projector beams TV shows to a seventy-two-inch screen high on the wall behind the counter. "I wanted a big TV, but they don't have that big. So, I go for the projector," she shrugs.

Young is still working out her menu. At the core are the Thai and Chinese favorites

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Phet Young closed her Jasmine Thai & China Bistro in Saline to open the Asian Fuzion Café on Washtenaw. The "fusion" reflects its expanded range, including American classics and an extensive breakfast menu.

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Marketplace Changes

that she and her husband served in Saline and can crank out with their eyes closed: pad Thai, several classic curries, *tom yum* and *tom kha* soups, and a dozen or so Chinese stir-fries. She has also studded the menu with her favorite American classics—from the looks of it, Young particularly likes ham and cheese sandwiches and any kind of sausage. She also really digs New Orleans—a whole section of the menu is devoted to Cajun items like jambalaya.

She's also a fan of breakfast, available daily until 2 p.m., both standard and Asian-accented (Thai omelet with Thai basil, cilantro, and spicy sausage; pancakes with pineapple and coconut marmalade; tofu scrambles). Coming soon, she promises, when she hires the proper chefs, are *pho,* the Vietnamese noodle soup, and Japanese noodle dishes. She also may add bubble tea.

Full of enthusiasm for Ann Arbor in general and its public schools in particular, she was thrilled when her oldest daughter got into Community High by lottery. While the kids aren't old enough yet to work for her, they see plenty of the restaurant. "Very convenient," she points out. "I take kids here every morning, give them breakfast, then send them off."

Asian Fuzion Café, 3452 Washtenaw (Pittsfield Plaza). 929–1239. Sun.–Thurs. 8 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 8 a.m.–10 p.m.

Briefly Noted

There are more than sixty million birders in the United States—but Lisa Haanpaa, the new owner of Ann Arbor's **Wild Bird Center,** doesn't consider herself one of them. "I'm not technically a birder; I'm a backyard birder," she insists. While serious bird-watchers track migration patterns and travel the country adding to their life lists, she just likes to put out birdseed and watch the birds feed. For a backyard birder, though, she's pretty serious: she has six feeders to accomodate different species, diets, and feeding habits.

Haanpaa, who bought the franchise from Wayne Baker last summer, estimates that 30 percent of her customers are serious, muck-around-in-the-wild birders. The rest are more like her. She sells more than 100 different bird feeders, from a simple $10 plastic one that holds a handful of seeds to a $350 copper-topped version that's made from recycled milk jugs and holds up to ten pounds. She carries a wide selection of birdseed, including special blends for various breeds. Other products include binoculars, field guides, birdbaths, nesting boxes, books, videos, T-shirts, sweatshirts, and gifts. She also plans to host regular workshops for kids on how to build a birdhouse.

It's Haanpaa's second Wild Bird franchise. She quit her job as a project manager at a web firm to open the first in Brighton in 2007. She says she'd always wanted to own her own business, and her lifelong interest in birds made Wild Bird Center seem like a good fit. She says it's

a good business to be in these days: "In this economy, it's something you can do with your kids that's close to home, and it makes your backyard exciting."

Wild Bird Center, 2225 Plymouth (Traver Village Shopping Center). 213–2473. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. www.wildbird.com/franchisee/ann

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Jeannine Mickeleit loves coffee. "I used to study a lot, and I got several degrees, all of them over coffee," says the thirty-three-year old MSU grad, former financial advisor, and recent M.B.A. After researching several businesses to buy, she chose a **Biggby Coffee** franchise. She opened Ann Arbor's third Biggby in the Courtyard Shops on Plymouth in late September, hoping to capture both students and commuters.

"It's all about the coffee," she says firmly of her and the Lansing company's philosophy. "And we don't just want to serve you a cup of coffee. We want you to leave in a better mood." Mickeleit says it's no accident that when you walk in the door, the first person to catch your eye is the cashier, who will "point you in the right direction and walk you through the experience." Not so important is the food—the pastries, bagels, and bagel sandwiches are "add-ons," she says candidly, "from Sysco." Mickeleit is confident that people don't come to coffee shops for the food—they come for the lattes, especially one called the "Caramel Marvel."

Mickeleit says she's looking into another Ann Arbor location but hasn't signed anything yet. "The market is definitely ready for it," she says.

Biggby Coffee, 1741 Plymouth. (Courtyard Shops). 222–7030. Mon.–Sat. 6 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. 7 a.m.–9 p.m. www.biggby.com

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"Mangy mutt" used to be a common expression, but if you're unlucky enough to have a mutt with actual mange, Dena Gilmore can help you out. Her new westside pet store, **Wags to Wiskers,** sells a product to treat that skin disorder, which causes hair loss in dogs, cats, and other pets. Gilmore puts a lot of emphasis on health care products, she says, because "our stores are about the whole animal, the whole pet."

Gilmore launched her company in 2002, after eight years in purchasing for Ford, working six to seven days a week and traveling all over the country. "One day I was sitting in my hotel room in New Jersey, and I thought, I really want to do something in my life that brings meaning to myself and other people," she recalls. "I thought, what do I love? I love animals, and I care about people, and I thought: pet supplies!" Within months Gilmore left Ford to open her first store in Saline. She's sole owner of that location, and half-owner of a store in Chelsea; two other stores, in Gaylord and Dexter, are licensed to other owners. Two more stores are in the pipeline.

Gilmore says her purchasing background helps her find the best products at the lowest cost—everything from natural health care products to bird cages, and from pet food to beds. With 3,400 square feet in her new Ann Arbor location, she has room for dog obedience classes and other events too.

Gilmore came up with the logo, which features a cartoon dog and cat. The dog is Wags, and he's mange-free. The cat is Wiskers. "It's spelled without an 'h' deliberately because that's the cat's name," Gilmore says. "It's meant to reflect everyone's pet, and the feelings that our pets give us, which are very happy."

"I thought, I really want to do something in my life that brings meaning to myself and other people," Dena Gilmore recalls. "I thought, what do I love? I love animals, and I care about people, and I thought: pet supplies!"

Wags to Wiskers, 2225 W. Stadium Blvd. 769–2000. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

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When a sign announcing **yogurtrush** appeared a few months ago on State Street, it looked as if the block had suddenly grown a new storefront. But a closer look reveals that it's actually part of **Amer's** deli—a store within a store. "We had been doing yogurt for a year with just the one machine," says Damon Hoffman, Amer's State Street manager, but it wasn't the trendy, sour kind. Then owner Amer Bathish decided to aggressively pursue that new niche by inventing the yogurtrush brand and giving over part of his State and Church street stores to expanded self-serve dairy bars. Customers have their choice of regular (non-sour) chocolate and vanilla or a selection of sour flavors. As at Swirlberry down the street, the yogurt is sold by the ounce (49¢, undercutting Swirlberry's 65¢) with a cornucopia of fruit and candy topping options.

Amer's is the fourth entrant to the frozen dairy biz on State's campus strip (Ben & Jerry's and Stucchi's are practically next door). The arrival of yogurtrush completely killed any plans by South University's Yogo Bliss owners Mack Kim and Joe Ahn to open a second shop on State. Kim says they had looked at the empty Ritz Camera and Shaman Drum spaces.

yogurtrush, inside Amer's, 312 S. State (761–6000) and 611 Church (769–1210). www.amersdeli.com

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Locally owned **20-20 Wireless** changed the name of its three area stores to **Wireless Zone** last summer. It wasn't a sale, explains co-owner Debbie Patterson, but a conversion: "That means they

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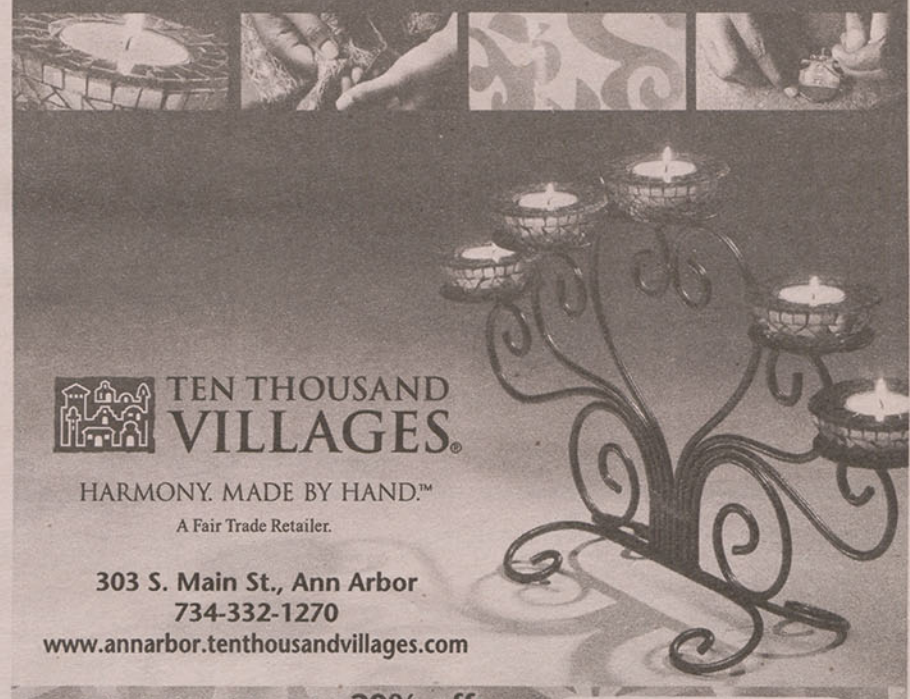
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Marketplace Changes

take an existing [independent] retailer and convert it to a franchise." Patterson says the affiliation with the 400-store Wireless Zone chain really raised customer awareness. "We've adopted the new look," Patterson says. "They sent in a truck and set it all up in two days." The new design includes light birch-wood displays that give the store an open, inviting feel.

Wireless Zone sells only Verizon, so she has a Verizon Wireless logo on her storefront. "That helps a lot," says Patterson. But she says the biggest advantage of the franchise is that "they take the administration away, so we can focus on customer service." Patterson says in today's cellular market, it's all about customer service, not sales. While she still sells plenty of Verizon phones and sets up calling plans for customers, most of Patterson's business is built on helping them get the most out of their phones, from making sure there's ample memory for photos and video to showing people how to transfer the images they take to their computers and printers. "That's cumbersome to people," she says. "They don't know how to set that stuff up."

Wireless Zone, 5245 Jackson Rd. 327–5500. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Closed Sun.

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Pop-jazz crooner Michael Bublé probably won't be playing Live at PJ's anytime soon, but he may be sitting in the audience. His drummer and good friend, Robert Perkins, is now a partner in PJ's and its sister nightclub, Goodnite Gracie.

Pop-jazz crooner Michael Bublé probably won't be playing **Live at PJ's** anytime soon, but he may be sitting in the audience. His drummer and good friend, Robert Perkins, is now a partner in PJ's and its sister nightclub, **Goodnite Gracie.** Perkins' job is to book all the entertainment. "With all the touring I've done, I know a lot of the acts and the booking agents," Perkins explains by phone from Toronto, where he's on tour with Bublé. "I'd like to turn PJ's into almost an old-fashioned supper club kind of experience." One of PJ's under-exploited assets is a fully equipped kitchen. Perkins has bumped up the menu to homemade pizzas, burgers, and small plates, but it isn't quite a supper club yet.

In the last few years, PJ's programming has been pretty perfunctory, but the closing of the Firefly Club lays the jazz-blues niche in downtown nightlife wide open. Perkins, with his inside track, seems perfectly positioned to capitalize. Perkins cites Mia Dyson, an Australian rock and blues singer and guitarist who plays at Goodnite Gracie on November 6, as an example of the kind of acts he's going to bring in.

Perkins has played the Firefly and the Michigan Theater, and he's a good friend of Ann Arbor–raised guitarist Randy Napoleon (who has also toured with Bublé). At thirty-four, Perkins isn't looking to retire from touring yet, but he was casting around for a business to buy into when he teamed up with PJ's and Gracie's owner Michael Hanna last summer (Hanna also owns Rush Street, but Perkins is not a partner in that). Perkins says he'll be passing through Ann Arbor "as much as I can." But where is he based? "Yeah, my fianceé was just asking me the same thing. She says she'd really like to know," he says. He allows that he probably lives, if anywhere, in Los Angeles.

Goodnite Gracie, 301 W. Huron, 752–5740. Tues.–Sat. 7 p.m.–2 a.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. goodnitegracie.com

Live at PJ's, 102 S. First. 752–5740. Wed.–Sat. 9 p.m.–2 p.m. Closed Sun.–Tues. liveatpjs.com *(See Nightspots, p. 70, for November shows.)*

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When Kay Kendall retired last year, she sold her shoe repair shop on North Fourth Avenue to Todd Roberts and Duane Thomas. We don't cover service businesses in this column, so we didn't write about it. But now we can: Roberts and Thomas have expanded **Park Shoe Repair** into retail by selling women's boots, mainly mid-priced cowboy boots (around $150); a selection of men's shoes, mainly brands like Aetrex and Pedors that accommodate orthotics; and inexpensive and functional purses and belts. (The shop also has a large selection of polishes, inserts, laces, and other shoe accessories.)

Roberts says he and Thomas chose this particular shoe inventory because they don't want to compete with any other downtown merchants yet wanted to fill the space with merchandise rather than tired, broken footwear. But Roberts really wants to sell Alden shoes, a fine men's dress shoe made in New England. He says it's "slightly higher up the ladder than Allen Edmonds," the Wisconsin-based company that's a more familiar brand in the Midwest, and it's unavailable in Ann Arbor. He needs to order twenty-five pairs for his first buy, so he's offering a large discount to the first twenty-five men who preorder Alden shoes.

Roberts and Thomas have ripped out and reconfigured a wall and counter that had obscured a delicate wood and cast iron Victorian-era fireplace. It's not exactly showcased—the room could use a paint job, and there are some holes in the wall above it—but the mint-condition fireplace is a gracious and unexpected focal point. They also have a walk-in safe from the same era, an ornate, black steel affair with "Detroit Safe Company" stenciled in gold paint on the inside door. They use it to store their inventory of heels and soles.

Roberts works full time on the assembly line making parts for Ford (he says his job is secure), but he's been doing shoe repair for twenty-some years. He and Thomas met, and learned their craft, at Pells, the shoe-repair company that used to rent space in Meijer. Thomas owns another shoe repair store, Rapid Shoe Fix, in Ypsilanti. So most days, the person behind the counter is Ausma ("Ozzie") Hoseney, who worked at College Shoe Repair on William for nearly thirty years until Roberts and Thomas hired her. Her job, she says, is to clean and repair "anything sewable other than shoes"—purses, book bags, and the like. Hoseney grew up in the business: her father emigrated from Germany and got a job at College Shoe Repair in 1952.

Park Shoe Repair, 120 N. Fourth Ave. 769–9066. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Closed Sun. www.parkshoerepair.com

Closings

Jennifer Schroer and her twin sister, Amy Bolt, opened **Peartree Furnishing & Gifts** five years ago in Chelsea. Their particular métier was freshly elegant takes on English country-home styles and the appropriate accents to go with them. Three years ago they moved to the retail block on North Main between Miller and Ann with their fingers crossed. It looked as if the city had approved Mike Concannon's plan for a two-building, $30 million mixed-use complex on the site of the old St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church a block north.

That project is now on hold indefinitely, and Peartree's lease was up at the end of October. "We had a choice to renew for another three years or not," says Schroer. Not surprisingly, sales in heirloom-quality home furnishings have been flat lately, although Schroer observed dryly, "Once we started offering fifty percent off, sales went way up."

Schroer's mother, Mary Schroer, a state representative from 1993 to 1999 who helps at the shop, says that Pfizer's sudden exit from town didn't help matters—and then "last October, things just stopped. People stopped buying furniture." While Peartree stocked plenty of more affordable accessories, Jennifer says, "We need to sell furniture to make it."

Her mother explains: "People who buy more expensive furniture are people whose children have left home. You've done the IKEA, done the Penney's, done Sears, and now it's time to buy something worthy, something that's going to stick around for awhile. Now those people are watching their retirement accounts and saying, 'Oh my God, I just lost half of it.'"

Schroer and Bolt plan to continue to sell furniture on their two websites, www.peartreehome.com and www.peartreemodern.com.

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Got a retail or restaurant change? Send email to tonymcreynolds@tds.net or sallymitani@gmail.com or leave voicemail at 769–3175, ext. 309.

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The Zingerman's Times

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Fall gelati are back!

There have been numerous sightings of one of the most unique flavors ever to hit the gelato world: **Paw Paw**. Experts describe the Michigan-native paw paw as the "tropical" fruit of the North. In addition, **Pumpkin** and **Cinnamon** gelati are making a special, limited-time only annual appearance. Available at Zingerman's Creamery, Deli and Roadhouse.

Gelato 6-Pack ships Nov. 16-19 & 23-24 from www.zingermans.com or call 888. 636.2095. Order today!

Zingerman's mail order is hiring!

For info on great seasonal jobs with Zingerman's Mail Order, *Times* readers are encouraged to apply in person.

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Zingerman's Roadhouse

Now open at 7am weekdays for the "Breakfast of the Century"

Witnesses report this was how Jane and Michael Stern (from Lynn Rosetto Kasper's *The Splendid Table*) described their recent visit to the Roadhouse. Now open weekdays starting at 7am. See the full menu at www.zingermansroadhouse.com.

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Zingerman's Coffee Company	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.6060
Zingerman's Candy Manufactory	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095

www.Zingermans.com

a "novel" gift idea!

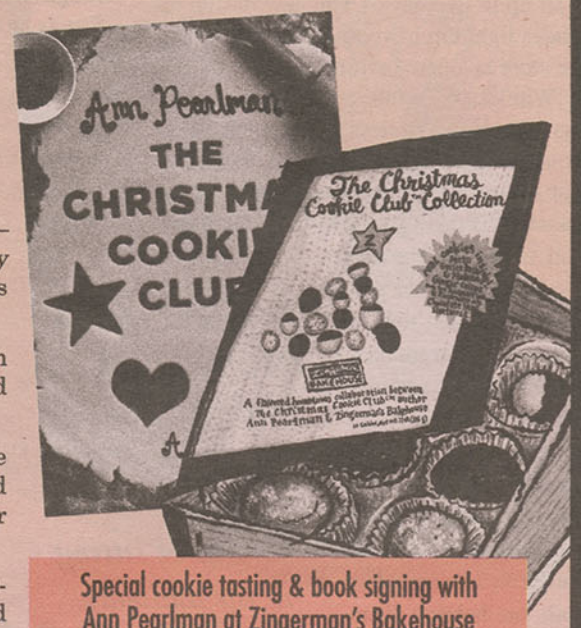
Ann Arbor's Ann Pearlman and Zingerman's Bakehouse Team Up for a Hometown Holiday Gift

Local author Ann Pearlman's new novel *The Christmas Cookie Club*—the "stories are both humorous and heartbreaking" according to *Library Journal*—has inspired a special cookie collection from Zingerman's Bakehouse.

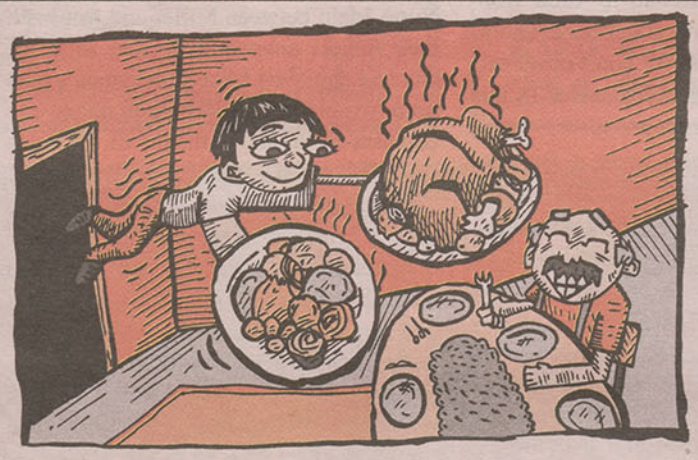
Sources confirm Ann and Zingerman's co-founder Ari Weinzweig began discussing a cookie collaboration earlier this year after Ann had signed a major book deal with Simon and Schuster.

"We considered pitching the idea to bigger bakeries," notes Ann. "But we have a hometown connection with Zingerman's, and I love their food and have so much respect for how they do business. So, we opted for better tasting cookies even if it meant making cookies on a smaller scale."

Including Ginger Molasses Crisps, Pecan Butter Balls and Chocolate Mint Shortbread, this cookie gift box can be purchased along with Ann's book at Zingerman's Bakehouse, Delicatessen and Roadhouse, or sent to loved ones from coast to coast at www.zingermans.com. Call 888. 636.2095 to order.



Special cookie tasting & book signing with Ann Pearlman at Zingerman's Bakehouse Nov. 12th • 7-8:30 PM • Free! RSVPs appreciated—call 734.761.2095.



zingerman's dishes out low-stress holiday

Countdown to Holiday Take-Out from Local Deli

Featuring local turkey breast from Harnois and Son Farm in Whitmore Lake, MI, hand-selected by Chef Rodger, matched with traditional celery and sage stuffing, brussels sprouts with butternut squash and chestnut cream soup, Thanksgiving dinner from the Deli provides a truly tasty holiday. They've put together complete holiday feasts for 4 that have *Times* readers exclaiming "Now that's something to be thankful about!"

Available November 23-25. View the full Deli Thanksgiving menu at www.zingermansdeli.com. Call ahead for pickup: 734.663.3354.

Take "The Greatest Turkey Recipe in the History of Thanksgiving" To-Go from the Roadhouse!

Hailed by *Esquire* magazine, Zingerman's Roadhouse's pit-smoked turkey with Zingerman's exclusive Spicy Coffee Spice Rub has never been easier to serve at home for the holidays. *Times* readers on the westside report that all they need to do is call 734.663.FOOD to place their order and conveniently pick it up at the Roadshow Trailer.

Check out www.zingermansroadhouse.com for the full Roadhouse special holiday menu. Pre-orders available with 48 hours notice November 15-December 31 (closed Thanksgiving and Christmas).

Limited edition holiday coffee coming in November

Zingerman's Coffee Company

Due to popular demand, Zingerman's Coffee Company is creating a new, exclusive holiday blend that sources say is perfect to serve after a great holiday feast (with pie from the Bakehouse) to give as a gift, or to enjoy on its own as a pick-me-up. Insiders report this year's special blend is fruity with a good percentage of a naturally processed Sumatran, with hints of strawberry jam, lavender and toasted bread. Available at Zingerman's Deli, Bakehouse and Roadhouse.

Pies a-plenty worth celebrating!

According to recent polls, *Times* readers count dessert made with quality ingredients among the things they are most thankful for. Pies from Zingerman's Bakehouse feature only all-butter and butter/lard crusts. Sources confirm there's no other way to get the texture and taste that makes great pies great and this year's assortment of full-flavored holiday pies is no exception:

- Cranberry Walnut
- Chocolate Chess
- Pilgrim Pumpkin
- Perky Pecan
- Old School Apple

Don't delay! *Times* readers are urged to reserve holiday dessert now by calling 734.761.2095.

Ship pies (& more!) to friends and family from coast to coast by calling 888.636.8162 or visiting www.zingermans.com.

Vinology

The new black

In food fashion, local is the new black. Chef Brandon Johns put his locovore stamp on Vinology before leaving to open his own uber-local restaurant, the Grange Kitchen & Bar, last summer. Since then, Vinology has been anxious to emphasize that it, too, still uses a lot of local ingredients. On a recent visit, our server said the magic word "local" five or six times in his opening spiel, making me restless to see what all the hype was about.

Starting with the small plates, the tempura-battered squash blossoms, stuffed with goat cheese and resting on a hearty gazpacho sauce, were a highlight—and the best evidence that Vinology makes scrumptious food with local ingredients. I can't say as much for the Michigan mushroom tartlet, with its bland seasoning and tough puff pastry. The "Kobe" beef isn't local, nor is it Japanese—it's a Kobe-style Wagyu-Angus hybrid raised in the Midwest. Perhaps because Angus doesn't achieve the same level of marbling as Wagyu, the Kobe "sliders" were so thick and dry they wouldn't have slid down a linebacker's throat—even when lubricated with a trio of fresh tomato ketchups. My favorite of the small plates was the filet tips, perfectly seared and covered with a slightly citrusy *ponzu* glaze. Popcorn, seasoned with a snooty but satisfying hint of truffle oil, was a surprising side to the tips.

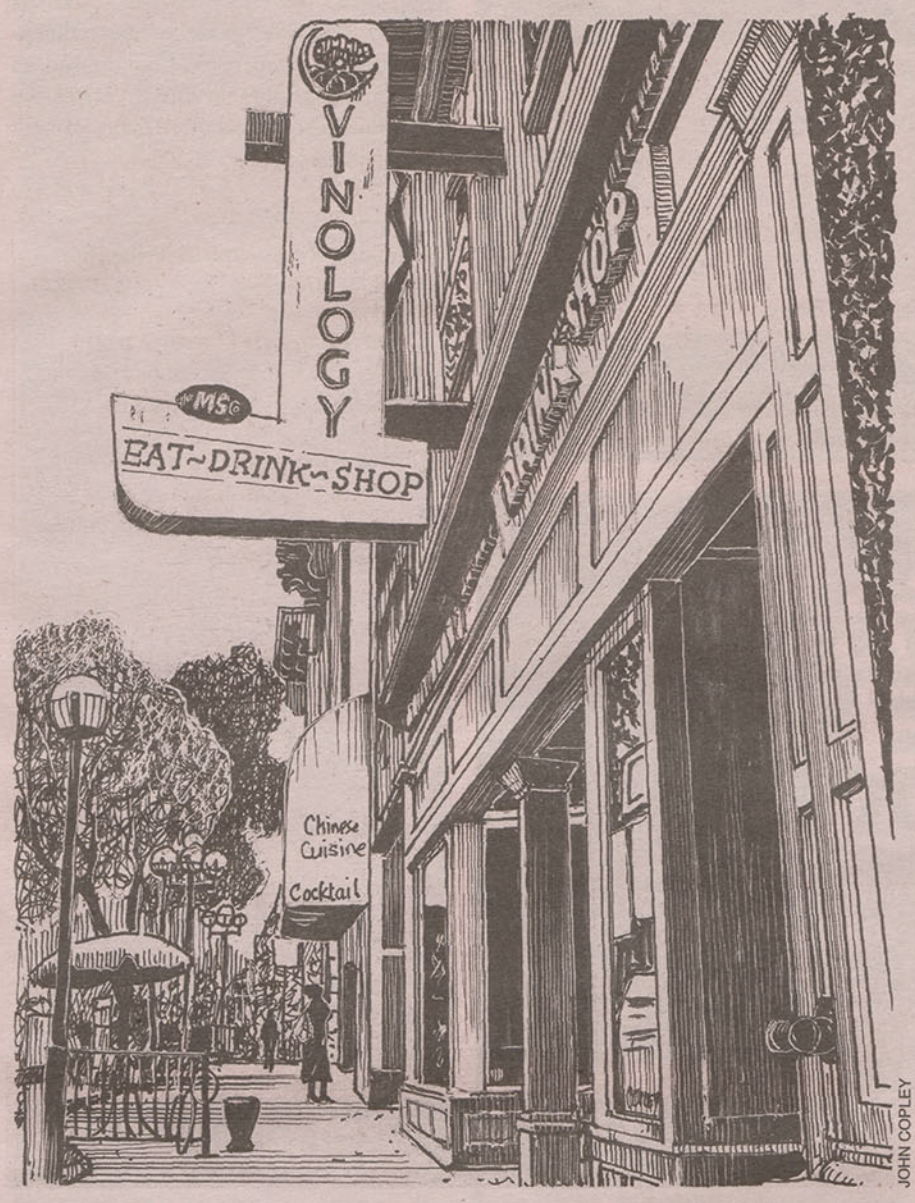
Among the entrées, the braised Kobe short rib completely redeemed the sliders. Even cooked well done, the meat was still so tender and juicy it nearly melted in my mouth. Lake perch, the most obviously local entrée, disappointed me with its soggy breading, but my co-reviewer was pleased that the fish remained moist, a welcome change from most perch preparations.

Vinology's new head chef, Robert Courser, has a background in Asian cuisine that shows up most strikingly in the fish entrées. The black tea leaf tuna, just shy of rare, made a fresh foil to the crispy fried rice cake that came with it. I'd order the dish again for the cake alone. Crunchy on the outside, soft and chewy on the inside, with a hint of sweetness, fry oil, and toasted sesame, it tasted like a refined funnel cake. The barbecued salmon was less successful. Coming from Arkansas, I expect "barbecued" to refer to food slow-cooked over an open flame; this was broiled and slathered in a super-cinnamony Asian barbecue sauce. I can forgive the term, since the salmon was perfectly cooked, but the sauce was so sweet and overpowering that I ended up scraping it off.

Besides changing chefs, Vinology is also open again for lunch after a yearlong hiatus. The new lunch menu addresses the local economy as well as local food: all of the entrées are $8, less than half the least expensive dinner entrée. Sticking to the local theme, I was most interested in the butternut squash ravioli. Like all the lunch entrées, it came in a generous dinner-size portion. Spiced with cinnamon and sugar, the filling tasted like pumpkin pie, but it avoided the heaviness of a holiday dessert by substituting fresh sautéed mushrooms for a thick sauce. Although the ravioli were a little too sweet for me, I'd order them again just for the beautiful presentation: bright orange carrots with a shock of green stem, saffron-colored squash cubes, and a circumference drizzle of cheery spring-green pea puree. It was a comforting and warm choice for a chilly day but light enough that I could go back to work without a food hangover.

Besides being a good deal, the lunch menu also has a wide variety of options, from Mahi tacos with mango salsa to shrimp po'boys with Cajun rémoulade. I tried a thick juicy "Vino burger" with bacon and mild fontina, a perfectly spiced jerk chicken sandwich (also juicy), and a gigantic tuna *niçoise*. The latter was heaped with fat cherry tomatoes, spindly haricots verts, black olives, boiled potatoes, and slightly dry tuna that tasted canned. The champagne vinaigrette was so mild that the salad needed salt and pepper, but the generous size and gorgeous presentation made up for the dish's minor faults.

Vinology's emphasis on local seems to be all on the food side. Not a single wine recommended on the dinner menu comes from less than a thousand miles away (although servers can recommend a Michigan wine if you prefer, and owner John Jonna says there will be more Michigan wines featured during April, "Michigan wine month"). Nonetheless, Vinology's effort to buy local food ingredients is commendable and pays off in small ways. On



JOHN COPLEY

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Marnee Thai

the dessert menu, an unassuming berry crisp made the chocolate cake, with its splashy red-wine "ganache," taste downright dull in comparison. Like the squash blossoms and butternut squash ravioli, the crisp showed off local ingredients without touting its trendiness.

—Katie Whitney

Vinology Restaurant & Wine Bar
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Lunch: Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Snacks $5, entrées $8, soups and salads $3–$6, shared plates $10–$15

Dinner: Mon.–Wed. 4 p.m.–midnight, Thurs.–Sat. 4 p.m.–1 a.m., Sun. 4 p.m.–9 p.m. Starters $8–$12, entrées $18–$28, desserts $7–$8

Wheelchair friendly

Sabor Latino

Points south

Long before Café Habana, Sabor Latino took Ann Arbor beyond Mexico to other destinations south. But the Latin American dishes on its old menu felt like afterthoughts—a few appetizers or turnovers that were listed on the menu but not all available daily. Now its new owners—husband and wife Marco and Jen Wong Baez and their partner, Khai Lee—are making Sabor truly Latino rather than merely Mexicano-plus.

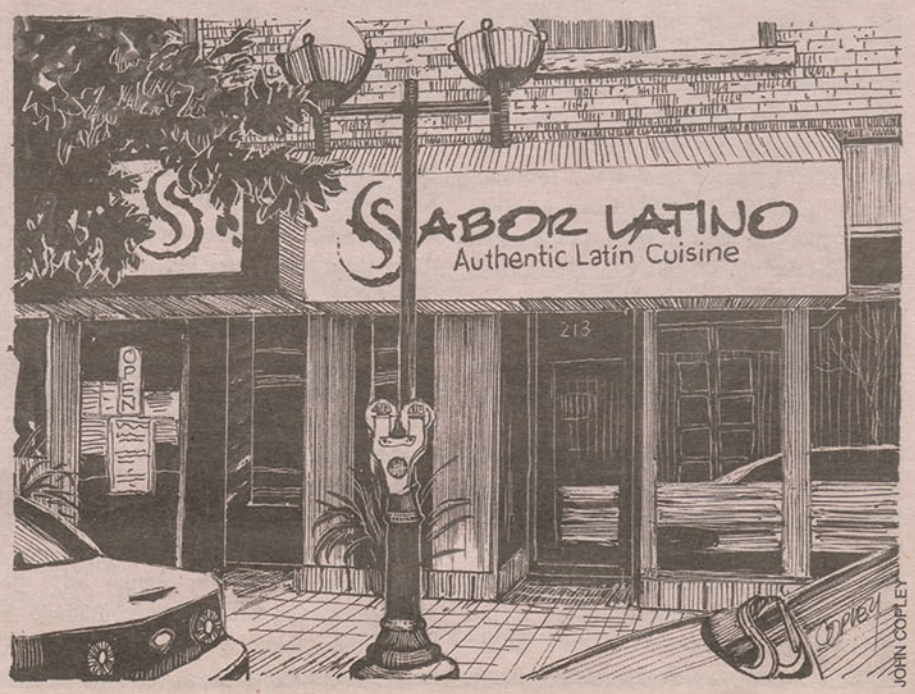
Their cosmetic changes are minor: they've cleared some space near the entrance, making the original lunch room feel less cramped. In the brick-walled dining room next door, photographs of places like Cuba and Peru heighten the pan-Hispanic atmosphere. But the most important change is a greatly expanded menu—in fact, *three* menus: for lunch, for dinner, and a unique and expansive weekend brunch.

All the old menu favorites remain, and they're still prepared by the same cooks. And though the prices have inched up a notch for some of them, Sabor Latino still lets you order a single taco or tamale for $1.99, an enchilada for $2.25, and a vegetarian tostada for $3.15. You can eat a little here, or you can eat a whole lot, at affordable prices.

Many of the Mexican dishes are fairly standard, with a few twists. Getting beans whole instead of refried is a nice change of pace—or would be if the beans weren't so plain and flavorless and the rice, both white and Spanish, weren't so bland and dried out around the edges. Also, Sabor is only one for three on its main meats—a good batting average only in *beisbol*. The beef can be rubbery, and the chicken ranges from passable to chew-toy tough. But pork fares much better: on a torta—a Mexican sandwich in comforting white-bread bun handles—the pork was savory and tender. And abundant, juicy pork was the only star of the *masitas de puerco*, a Cuban entrée that was pretty but soulless: those blah beans and rice, a few slices of onion, and some lonely strips of cassava.

The place does much better with vegetables. In fajitas, omelets, sopes, and *arepas*—little corn cakes that look like English muffins—they're garden-fresh and reliably roasted or sautéed to just the right texture. The arepas come topped with beans, guacamole, cheese, sour cream,

To really appreciate Sabor Latino, you need to venture to the samplings of Cuban, Puerto Rican, Venezuelan, Argentinian, Colombian, Salvadoran, and other Central and South American cuisines. This is the only place in town where you can find any food at all from many of these cultures.



and a choice of beef, chicken, chorizo, or roasted veggies. Broccoli—not a veggie I associate with Latino food—makes an incongruous but not unwelcome appearance among the veggies.

Still, I found many of the Mexican items underspiced. To really appreciate Sabor Latino, you need to venture to the samplings of Cuban, Puerto Rican, Venezuelan, Argentinian, Colombian, Salvadoran, and other Central and South American cuisines. This is the only place in town where you can find any food at all from many of these cultures.

The really special experience is the weekend brunch. The *pupusas,* a Salvadoran dish with thick corn cakes sandwiching eggs, cheese, onions, and a choice of meat, is a delightful change of pace (it compares to an Egg McMuffin as a wedding cake does to a Hostess Twinkie). You can feast on a "giant Mexican breakfast"—mouth-watering *chilaquiles* (tortilla chips fried crispy then softened with salsa), three eggs, refried beans, and guacamole. But even the brunch dishes not labeled as "giant" are large, if not ginormous. They range from huevos rancheros and omelets to more unusual fare like the Colombian-style *omelets pericos,* stuffed with tomatoes and onions, with arepas and a plantain smothered in white cheese on the side (an amazing marriage of sweet and salty). Remarkably, all the eggs for our party of six were perfectly cooked—but it took an inexcusable forty minutes to serve them.

Sabor's service is decidedly spotty. At lunch, a very solicitous server checked with the kitchen several times on whether dishes had gluten and even brought a bag of cornmeal to the table so we could read the ingredients. On a previous visit, though, another server brought enchiladas with cheese to an eater who had requested no dairy. On three out of four visits, at least one order was mixed up or forgotten. Under the new ownership, the place feels in some ways like it's not yet in sync—though, to be fair, even under the former owners the service had a lackadaisical air.

Despite its faults, Sabor Latino is a community treasure. For one thing, it takes risks to present unique cuisines—it's the only place on a late Saturday night where, if you have a hankering for cow's tongue, it might just be the daily special. And the fact that it's open till 3 or 3:30 a.m. four nights a week is welcome news for night owls and a rare thing in this go-to-bed-early big small town. Considering all the cultures it draws from, this may be the most cosmopolitan eatery in Ann Arbor.

—Michael Betzold

Sabor Latino
211 N. Main **214–7775**

Mon.–Wed. 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Thurs.–Fri. 11 a.m.–3:30 a.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–3:30 a.m., Sun. 9 a.m.–3 a.m.

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Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

Clue: A nearby frolicker, commissioned by the WPA

"And then at last your myth will harden, become a statue in the garden."

—Ejner Jensen,
from *Advice to a Unicorn*

"This beautiful unicorn illustrates a… poem written by my former colleague, Professor Ejner Jensen," writes Gail Stander. Both the poem and sculpture, *Rampant Unicorn* by Berthold "Tex" Schiwetz, can be found "in the outdoor garden at the Michigan League," says Elaine Sims—"on the opposite side of the building from [Carl Milles's *Sunday Morning in*] *Deep Waters*", adds Barb Oliver, alluding to October's clue. Citing the U-M public sculpture web page, John Briegel says that Schiwetz assisted Milles in creating *Deep Waters* while studying at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills.

"I know this regal unicorn well," writes Laura Schieb, who enjoys photographing it. Aileen Schultz also knows it well—she volunteers as a docent at the League, where she lived and worked sixty-two years ago as a student. She adds, "tours of the League are available!"

Barb Oliver won our drawing and will receive a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *History of Ann Arbor*. To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue to find the spot shown, and then enter using the instructions at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 100 entries to our little contest in October. Of those, ninety-nine correctly identified the Fake Ad for the Biergarten on p. 89. It's been awhile since middle school math class, but that sounds like 99 percent correct. The Oktoberfest Biergarten at Epcot in Disneyworld has long been the Fake Ad Czar's favorite place in the "Happiest Place on Earth," so the ad holds special significance for me.

It sounds like I'm not alone in that regard. "It was disappointing that it was Fake," wrote Colleen van Lent. "That is the kind of place that would convince my dad to come for a visit."

Zicke, zacke, zicke, zacke,
HOI, HOI, HOI!
Zicke, zacke, zicke, zacke,
HOI, HOI, HOI!
(Sounds like it's Octoberfest at the Biergarten. As if you didn't know.)
The Biergarten
1420 Harbor
Webster, MI

"The Biergarten sounds like a good place for Octoberfest," wrote Andrew L. Weber (how does he find the time to enter while writing all those Broadway shows?). "But alas the ad was for a fake bar."

Jeff Stanzler was chosen as our winner. He's taking his $25 gift certificate to the Grange Kitchen & Bar.

To enter and win your own gift certificate to an advertiser of your choice, find the unreal ad in this month's issue and enter using the instructions at the bottom of the page. The Fake Ad always contains the clue "arborweb"—in October, it was hidden within the Biergarten's address.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: (734) 769–3375. Email: backpage@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on November 10 will be eligible for the December drawings.

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Events at a Glance

*Daily **Events** listings begin on p. 37. **Films:** p. 55. **Galleries:** p. 43. **Nightspots** begin on p. 70.*

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- U-M Digital Music Ensemble "Gypsy Pond Music," Nov. 1
- Soprano Christine Brewer, Nov. 1
- Chinese Ensemble of the Art Troupe of Renmin University of China, Nov. 5
- Kaufmann–Gratkowski–de Joode chamber trio, Nov. 6
- Kerrytown Concert House Andrews Sisters tribute, Nov. 7
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Nov. 8
- St. Lawrence String Quartet, Nov. 8
- Ensemble Chaconne early-music trio, Nov. 13
- Los Guitarristas, Nov. 13
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 14
- Michigan Baroque Ensemble, Nov. 15
- Berlin Philharmomic, Nov. 17
- Ann Arbor Grail Singers, Nov. 21
- Jim Wilhelmsen Trio, Nov. 22
- Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, Nov. 22
- "An Afternoon of American Music" with Bolcom & Morris cabaret duo and violinist Gabriel Bolkosky & pianist Michele Cooker, Nov. 29
- Vienna Boys Choir, Nov. 29

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

*See **Nightspots**, p. 70, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs.*

- Paul VornHagen Trio (jazz), Nov. 6
- Looking Glass (pop-rock), Nov. 6
- Dennis Stroughmatt & Creole Stomp (French Creole), Nov. 7
- U-M MACFest (a cappella), Nov. 7
- Gal Costa (Brazilian pop), Nov. 7
- Paul Renz Quartet (jazz), Nov. 8
- Mavis Staples (gospel & soul), Nov. 10
- Keb' Mo' (blues), Nov. 11
- Mary McCaslin (singer-songwriter), Nov. 13
- Yasmin Levy (Israeli singer-songwriter), Nov. 14
- Patti Lupone (Broadway), Nov. 20
- Old Crow Medicine Show (old-time string band), Nov. 20
- Tobias Delius & Georg Graewe (jazz), Nov. 24
- Jeff Daniels & Friends (Michigan songs), Nov. 28

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Megan Mooney, Nov. 5–7
- Comic Ron White, Nov. 6
- Comic Bobby Tessel, Nov. 12–14
- Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild, Nov. 14 & 15
- Comic Michael Loftus, Nov. 19–21
- Comic Heywood Banks, Nov. 27–29

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *Hawk, I'm Your Brother* (Wild Swan Theater), Nov. 5–7
- *The Little Prince* (Junior Theatre), Nov. 5–8
- *The Wizard of Oz* (Young People's Theater), Nov. 5–8
- Puppeteer Carrie Morris's *Weather Channels*, Nov. 6
- Keith Terry & the SLAMMIN All-Body Band, Nov. 6
- Ann Arbor Symphony/Chenille Sisters family concert, Nov. 15
- *Pinocchio* (Young Actors Guild), Nov. 19–21
- Guy Louis family concert, Nov. 21
- Gemini family concert, Nov. 29

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Escanaba* (Purple Rose Theatre), every Wed.–Sun. (except Nov. 26)
- *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 5–7
- *Katinka* (Comic Opera Guild), Nov. 5 & 7
- *The Charlatan* (Comic Opera Guild), Nov. 6 & 8
- *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (U-M Residential College Players), Nov. 6–8
- *Frozen* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 12–14
- *The Marriage of Figaro* (U-M Opera Theatre), Nov. 12–15
- *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Dynamic Stage Productions), Nov. 12–14
- *All Childish Things, Episodes I–III* (EMU Theatre), Nov. 13–15
- *Romeo and Juliet* (Blackbird Theatre), Nov. 13
- *Lost in Yonkers* (U-M Basement Arts), Nov. 19–21
- *Uncommon Women and Others* (U-M Theatre), Nov. 19–22
- *happenchance on a blank body* (U-M Dance), Nov. 19–21
- *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), Nov. 19–22
- *The Night of the Iguana* (MorrisCo Art Theatre), Nov. 19–21
- *Christmas Carol'd* (Performance Network), Nov. 19–22 & 27–29
- *Our Town* (Greenhills School), Nov. 20–22
- *Struggle for Existence: Darwin's Dreams* (U-M Exhibit Museum/Residential College), Nov. 20–22
- *Hair* (U-M MUSKET), Nov. 20–22
- *Annie* (Encore Musical Theatre), Nov. 27–29
- *If Only in My Dreams* (Blackbird Theatre), Nov. 27–29

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Wystan Stevens' farewell Forest Hill Cemetery Tour, Nov. 1 & 8
- Jewish Book Festival, Nov. 3–6, 8–13, & 15
- U•Con Gaming Convention, Nov. 13–15
- U-M Scandinavian Studies Festival of Nordic Arts, Nov. 13–15
- U-M Indian American Cultural Show, Nov. 13
- Rails on Wheels model train show, Nov. 29

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Poet Bhanu Kapil, Nov. 3
- Memoirist Patricia Hampl, Nov. 5
- Novelist David Wroblewski, Nov. 5
- Novelist Jonathan Lethem, Nov. 6
- Culinary personality Anthony Bourdain, Nov. 7
- Fiction writer Allan Gurganus, Nov. 9
- Poet Rodrigo Toscano, Nov. 9
- Humorist John Hodgman, Nov. 11
- Poet Cody Walker, Nov. 11
- Novelist Laura Kasischke, Nov. 13
- Environmental journalist Bill McKibben, Nov. 11
- Human rights activist Nontombi Naomi Tutu, Nov. 13
- Fiction writer Kevin Brockmeier, Nov. 19

"Only in Ann Arbor"

Event of the Month

- "World War II: The Homefront" with Bolcom & Morris, tenor Bobby White, & *Jazz Revisited* host Hazen Schumacher, Nov. 11

NOVEMBER 2009

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M school of art & design

Oct. 23 – Dec. 4
EXHIBITION: **The Four Corners**

A suite of 19 color intaglio prints by A&D Professor Emeritus Takeshi Takahara inspired by time spent in the southwest.

Residential College Gallery

Nov. 5
PENNY W. STAMPS VISITORS SERIES:
Jamy Ian Swiss, magician

TITLE: Sleight of Hand: How Bodies Fool Minds
Swiss examines the role of the body in magic, both as a property of performance, and as a tool of the magician's art. *With support from UM Arts on Earth and the University Musical Society (UMS).*

Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

Nov. 5
EVENT: **Time/Ann Arbor Film Festival Tour Stop**

A part of the Time exhibition, exploring the concept of work delivered in time.
At Work • Detroit from 10.30 - 12.15

Reception: November 5, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Work • Detroit, 3663 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Nov. 6
EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION:
"Figures & Spaces"

A solo show by A&D Lecturer Nora Venturelli, on view from 10.27 - 12.6

Reception: November 6, 6:00 - 9:00pm
WSG Gallery, 306 S Main, Ann Arbor

Nov. 11
ARTIST'S TALK: **Jim Cogwell**

In conjunction with A&D Professor Cogswell's solo exhibition: *Meanwhile*, at Gallery One from 10.10 - 12.11

Reception & Remarks: 4:30 - 5:30,
at the Richard Baily Library

Lecture: 6:00 Room 175 Crane Liberal Arts & Sciences Building
Gallery One, Washtenaw Community College

Nov. 12
PENNY W. STAMPS VISITORS SERIES:
Robert & Shana ParkeHarrison

TITLE: Intent

Photographers Robert and Shana ParkeHarrison examine the ever-bleakening relationship linking humans, technology, and nature. Followed by an exhibition reception at Slusser Gallery.
With support from the UM Museum of Art (UMMA).

Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

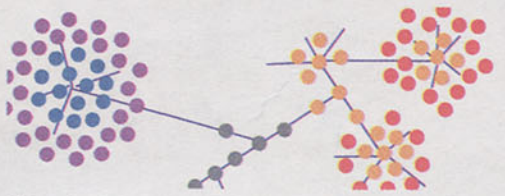
Nov. 12
EXHIBITION RECEPTION WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Robert & Shana ParkeHarrison

Reception: November 12, 7:00 - 9:00pm
Slusser Gallery, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor

Oct. 23 - Nov. 13
EXHIBITION: **Work at Hand**

Current work by A&D graduate students
Robbins Gallery, 2nd floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.

Oct. 23 – Nov. 13
EXHIBITION: **(re) Mapping**



This exhibition asks artists-designers to address the meaning of "mapping" in all its possible forms real and imagined, including brain mapping, DNA mapping and extraterrestrial mapping.
Work • Ann Arbor, 306 S. State

Nov. 19
EVENT: **Arts & Minds: 3x3: artistspacetime**

A&D Alum and lecturer Melanie Manos presents a series of performances including those by A&D Assistant Professor Danielle Abrams, and lecturer Amanda Krugliak.

Performance: 6:00 - 8:30pm
The Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA)

Nov. 19
PENNY W. STAMPS VISITORS SERIES:
Phoebe Gloeckner

TITLE: Through a Glass Darkly
Guggenheim Fellowship recipient, Phoebe Gloeckner is the author of the graphic novels *A Child's Life and Other Stories* and *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*. Gloeckner is on faculty at the School of Art & Design.

Presentation: 5:10pm
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

Nov. 20 - Dec. 18
EXHIBITION: **All Student Exhibition**

A&D's once-a-year extravaganza, with all undergraduate and graduate students invited to submit work.

Opening Reception: November 20, 6:00 - 9:00pm
Slusser Gallery & Robbins Gallery 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.
Special Open Studio: November 20, 8:00pm - 12:00am
A&D Graduate Studios 1631 S. State St.

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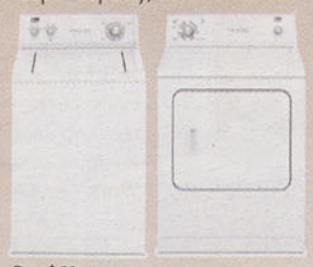

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